

PARACLETE

JANUARY 2024

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

2024 DIOCESAN CONVENTION EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MONTANA

Sign up to be a delegate to Diocesan Convention to be held October 4-6, hosted by St. Peter's Cathedral, Helena, Montana. Holy Spirit is entitled to 5 delegates who will be elected at the Annual Meeting on January 28. If you are interested in representing Holy Spirit at the Diocesan Convention, please call the church office, 406-542-2167, by Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

October 4-6

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 4-6 in Helena, hosted by St. Peter's Cathedral. 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 28. Holy Spirit is entitled to 5 delegates to Diocesan Convention; alternates are also needed as people's plans change during the year. Our number of delegates changed due to changes made to the Diocesan Canons. Any interested parish member who is willing to serve in this capacity should notify the church office at (406) 542-2167 by Wednesday, January 24.

Please join us at the Annual Meeting Parish begins new year at Annual Meeting on January 28

Don't forget to attend the Annual Meeting to be held in the parish hall after the 10:15 service on Sunday, January 28. Warren Gartner, our Senior Warden, has some surprises in store to liven up the meeting! We hope to be able to livestream the meeting for those who are unable to attend in person. A light meal will be served at the meeting at a cost of \$5. Reservations for the meal will be taken after services starting January 14 and continuing each Sunday until the Annual Meeting, or you may call the church office at (406) 542-2167 before Wednesday,

January 24. If you would like, you are welcome to bring your own snack.

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!

—REV. TERRI



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

Parish Administrator:

Judy Parock
office@holyspiritmissoula.org

Bookkeeper/Office Assistant:

Connie Gerke
Connie@holyspiritmissoula.org

Technology Specialist:

James Gartner
jameswgartner@gmail.com

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
SPIRIT**
**EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

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From the Senior Warden

Proposed amendments to Bylaws up for vote at Annual Meeting

During the annual review of our Bylaws, the Vestry found two areas where we recommend some simple changes. The parish members will need to vote to approve these changes during our Annual Meeting in January before they are adopted. The changes recommended are the following:

1. Currently the church Treasurer is elected by the Vestry at their first meeting of the year. We would like to change that to where the members of Holy Spirit have a say in that by electing the Treasurer at the Annual Meeting. The language of the change is as follows:

Article IV - Section 5:

Delete the first sentence - "The Vestry shall, at its first meeting following the annual meeting of the Parish, elect a Treasurer of the Parish." Replace it with "The members of the Parish attending the Annual Meeting shall elect a Parish Treasurer to serve through the coming year. The term shall be for that one year, although a Treasurer may again stand for election for multiple years. Names of candidates can come from

volunteers, recommendations from the Vestry and clergy, or nominations from the floor (with the approval of the nominee).

2. There is currently no definition as to what constitutes a quorum for the Vestry to be able to conduct business. We would like to define a quorum with the following addition to the Bylaws:

Article V - Section 5 (a new addition):

In order to conduct Parish business at meetings of the Vestry, a quorum, consisting of a majority of current Vestry Members, must be present, either in person or by electronic means.

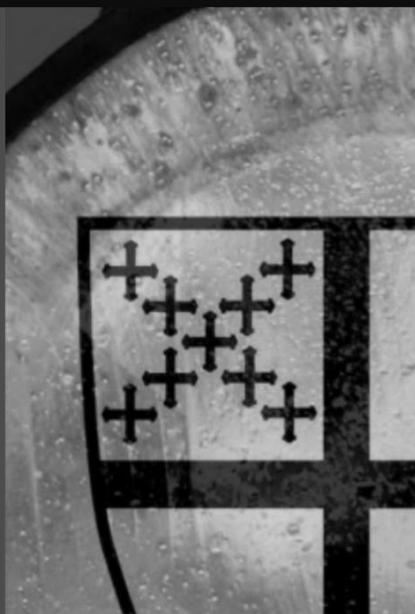
If you have any questions on these changes, please talk to a member of the Vestry between now and the Annual Meeting and be prepared to vote on these changes during the meeting.

Thank you,
— WARREN GARTNER,
SENIOR WARDEN
317-872-2431
kwgartner@sbcglobal.net

Learn more about the Episcopal Church

ADULT INQUIRERS CLASS

Sunday mornings
Following 10:15 a.m. service
January 7 - February 4
Meet in Guild Room



Learn about the Episcopal Church at the Inquirers Class

Do you have questions about The Episcopal Church and Holy Spirit Parish in particular? Are you interested in learning more about the history of our church, our style of worship, our polity (how we function together across the diocese and around the world)? Are you wondering about practical things like how to find your way in the Book of Common Prayer or what the word Episcopal even means? Perhaps you'd like to know how to be more fully a part of this faith community. This class is for you whether you are new to us or have

been around for a while but always wanted to know why things happen the way they do around here. Deacon Anita Rognas will be joined by Bob and Lani Brewer to host five sessions on Sundays after the 10:15 service, starting on January 7th and ending on Sunday February 4th. The group will read and discuss John Westerhoff's book, *A People Called Episcopalians*. Please contact the church office to sign up for this class, 406-542-2167 or office@holyspiritmissoula.org.

Family Worship is growing!

More kids and families are finding Holy Spirit's Family Worship service. Join in for the next one on Sunday, January 21 at 4:30 p.m. in the church.

Starting with a simple Eucharist, we have one hour of songs, lessons, and activities, exploring our faith together in love. Invite the young ones you know and their families to take part. Everybody's welcome!

— JODY THOMASSON
FAMILY WORSHIP TEAM

Join us for Compline on January 7

*O God of light and peace,
dispel the darkness that shrouds our path.*

Please join us in the quiet candlelight of compline on January 7th to celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord. At 8 PM that evening the Compline Choir will chant and sing a brief service that considers the manifestation of divine love in each of us. Epiphany is often called the

“season of light,” so it is especially fitting to use the quiet darkness of compline to consider the light of Christ in our lives.

Please join us!

— KEITH KUHN
COMPLINE COORDINATOR

Join us for
Family Worship

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
in the church!

January 21
February 25
April 7



New Year's Resolution: Sing more!

I'm sure that by now you all have already made a resolution to sing more! There's nothing like Christmas carols to inspire everyone to sing loudly and with gusto. But now Christmas is over, and winter has settled in; how about tackling something new?

Specifically, we are looking for some sopranos and altos to join our ranks in the choir. The ability to read music would be a big plus, but if you are interested in pursuing this, don't let the lack of reading ability stand in your way; come see me and let's talk.

Parents: if you have a young person of middle school age or older, they are also welcome to join us, and you are most welcome as well. Again, let's talk!

Lastly: although we possibly have one of the largest men's sections in any volunteer choir in America (!), I will never turn down more men! Let's talk!

Come up after church to chat. Send me an email!

(nancy.cooper@umontana.edu)

I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

And keep singing, wherever you are! Congregation members may love to hear the choir singing, but the choir loves to hear the congregation singing as well!

– NANCY COOPER

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

From the Rector

We have stories to share!

My time away for sabbatical, continuing education and vacation was a real gift from all of you, and I am most grateful. I had an outline of things I hoped to do, and it served me well: decompression time, reading about sacred story as well as general reads, being with my three older sisters for a full week of "just us," an adventure to Madison, Wisconsin via the Empire Builder/Amtrak train, and some creative time of play with my N scale model train (The Great Northern Railway). There was ample time for reflection and renewal throughout, and I plan to continue delving into various themes that came up.

Many have asked what it is like coming back to Holy Spirit. It feels like Rev. Gretchen, Sr. Warden Warren, and all of you put out a fine horse, saddled and ready for me to join the ride with all of you! I love what I am hearing about your sabbatical time in my absence and seeing how the Spirit has continued to energize your life together and beyond. I look forward to hearing more about your experiences as I share mine with you. Thank you. The light is shining brightly this Epiphany season!

– REV. TERRI+

Learn more about Rev. Terri's sabbatical Tea with Terri

Sign up for "Tea with Terri," hosted by Senior Warden Warren Gartner and Rev. Gretchen. Come hear about Terri's sabbatical experience and share some of your own reflections about *our* time of sabbatical. What have you witnessed

here at church? How have you seen us change and grow? Call the church office, 406-542-2167, and select the date that works best for you. Each of these gatherings will be limited to 15 people. We'll schedule more teatime as needed.

Here are the dates to choose from:

Wednesday January 3rd from 3-4 pm in the Guild Room

Wednesday January 10th from 3-4 pm in the Guild Room



Bring your donations January 7, 14 and 21 Socks, gloves, and hats needed for houseless men and women

Let's start 2024 the same generous way we Holy Spirit parishioners have begun every year since 2016: by donating socks, scarves, hats and gloves to our houseless brothers and sisters who reside at the Poverello Center and Johnson Street Shelter.

The collection will begin on Sunday, January 7, and conclude on Sunday, January 21. The easily recognizable red-and-white striped box will be located in the parish hall. A second more modest plastic bin will be set on the porch by the church office for receiving items for extended hours outside the building.

We welcome items that are hand-knit, store-bought or gently used. Please remember: socks should be made from wool or synthetic fabrics such as Thermolite. Please NO cotton. Cotton

does not keep out the cold and fails to wick away moisture, making feet feel cold and damp. Houseless men and women who sleep at the Poverello Center and Johnson Street Shelter spend many of their daytime hours outside in our cold, snowy and windy winter weather. As a result, these facilities go through many, many pairs of socks and other woolly items in a single day.

Thanks so much for your help with this important drive. If parishioners would like to place a bin outside their homes and accept donations from their neighbors, please email me at lucia.solowork@gmail.com. I am happy to provide a bin and signage and collect the contents as requested.

— LUCIA SOLORZANO WORK
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE



Join us on January 21, at 3 p.m. for "The Life and Art of J.K. Ralston"

Meet American painter, J.K. Ralston, as presented by his granddaughter Missoula resident and Holy Spirit parishioner A'Lisa Scott.

Ms. Scott will weave a rich tapestry of family history and the colorful life and times of her grandfather, J.K. Ralston, painter of the American West, published poet, National Cowboy Hall of Fame inductee as an historian and artist, and Montana Cowboy Hall of Fame inductee.

WHEN: Sunday, January 21
3 pm

WHERE: Holy Spirit Episcopal Church
130 South 6th Street East
Meet in the Parish Hall

Please call A'Lisa at 406-544-7632 if you have questions or would like more information.

— A'LISA SCOTT



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 on the church porch or in the parish hall

Join us for Centering Prayer

All are welcome to a circle of silent prayer. You will be gently led into and out of a 20-minute time of silence with prayer or readings. We gather in the Guild Room at Holy

Spirit on the third Tuesday of each month from 4 to 5 pm. That means we'll meet on Tuesday, January 16. Questions? Contact Willie Hoffer at 541-815-9609.

A Blessing of Homes

Gertrud Mueller Nelson in her book, *To Dance with God*, reminds us that Epiphany is a time to think about a house blessing. Here's a simplified version:

Leader: Peace be on the house.

All: And on all who live here.

Leader: You used the light of a star to show all nations and peoples your only begotten son, O God. Allow us to know you and to recognize the epiphanies in our lives.

All: All nations will walk in your light and kings in the brilliance of your splendor.

Leader: Bless, O Lord, this household and family. Help us to live in the shelter of this house in peace and health. Inspire us to learn and grow here so that we may contribute to the peace and health of the world around us. Make our house a haven for friends and visitors. Enlighten us with the brilliance of your Epiphany star so that as we leave this house, we might clearly see our way to you in our work and in our play.

All: For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

It's traditional to close the blessing with the sign of the cross and to use chalk to write the initials of the three wise men (Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar) over the main doors of the house. Their initials are framed by the numbers of the new year. This is what it might look like over your door:
20 CMB 24.



Community Ministries The many gifts in our 2023 Alms Sundays

With the support of the 2023 Vestry, Social Concerns Committee members and other parishioners helped us to invite ten organizations/ministries to Holy Spirit for Alms Sundays in 2023. Not only did those in the congregation tell us that they learned from the organizations' sharing of program updates and stories, but the speakers who came also noted feeling well-welcomed in their opportunities to connect with us. Here are a few of the results and partners, beyond any gifts or contacts directly to the organizations:

- Organizations/ministries featured included Borderlands Ministries, Freedom in Christ/Welcome Back, Parenting Place, Youth Homes, Friends of the Children, Mountain Home Montana, All Nations Health Center, Hellgate HS Family Resource Center, Home ReSource, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). In addition, a socks/gloves/hats drive was conducted for the Poverello Center.
- Alms Sundays' organizers who joined with me included

Rev. Doug Anderson, Zeke Campfield, Jari Davis, Bob Deaton, Pat King, Audrey Murray, A'Lisa Scott, Jim Wiley, Clem Work, and Lucia Solorzano Work.

- The total funds collected at Holy Spirit totaled \$5,708, a more than 50% increase over what was collected for nine organizations in 2022.
- Judy Parock has been such a valuable promotions partner with her posters and special collection support.

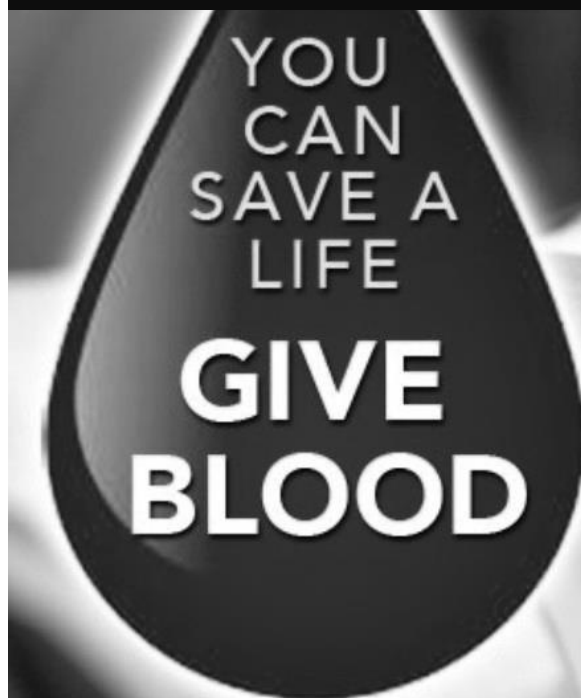
With two years of focused Alms Sunday programming behind us, this approach to our canonical Alms gathering is bearing good fruit. The Vestry has voted to have Holy Spirit continue these offerings in 2024. Please know that your prayers and suggestions for possible new organizations to invite are welcome. Thank you all for your care and support!

Learning and giving alongside you,

— THE VEN. DORCIE KAFKA
DVARISHKIS

dorcie@gmail.com ~

406-542-2167 church office



**Holy Spirit
Blood Drive**

Location: Parish Hall
130 South 6th Street East

**Thursday,
February 1
1 pm - 6 pm**

Sign up online at
www.redcrossblood.org

Holy Spirit's Winter Blood Drive set for February 1 **Schedule your blood donation today!**

Holy Spirit Parish will host its annual winter blood drive on Thursday, February 1, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

According to the American Red Cross: Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood – for surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, or traumatic injuries. Every day, the need is approximately 29,000 units of red blood cells, 5,000 units of platelets and 6,500 units of plasma.

Only about 3% of age-eligible people donate blood yearly and the Red Cross continues to address a nationwide shortage of blood and blood components. Donors of all blood types are needed.

You can help. Make an appointment to donate blood using the Red Cross online scheduling system at www.redcrossblood.org or by contacting Elizabeth Drummond (406-240-8873; eadrummond56@comcast.net).

The general guidelines for blood donation are:

- You are in good general health and feeling well.

- You are at least 17 years old.
- You weigh at least 110 pounds. (Donors under age 19 have additional weight requirements.)
- You haven't donated blood in the last 56 days.

Getting a flu, COVID-19 or RSV vaccination does not affect your eligibility, so long as you are healthy, feeling well and symptom-free at the time of donation. If you're currently on antibiotic treatment for a sinus, throat or lung infection, you should wait until after you complete that treatment.

Whether a patient receives whole blood, red cells, platelets or plasma, this lifesaving care starts with one person making a generous donation.

In addition to blood donors, we need volunteers to register donors and to prepare and serve refreshments. To volunteer, please contact Elizabeth. We look forward to seeing you at the Holy Spirit Blood Drive!

– ELIZABETH DRUMMOND
SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Blood donors needed!

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention predict a serious spread of respiratory illnesses this year and is already reporting a spike in cases in several states. When seasonal illnesses increase, the number of healthy donors tends to decrease, leaving the Red Cross blood supply vulnerable to a potential shortage.

Seasonal illnesses make it harder to collect the blood hospital patients require this winter. Donors – especially those with type O blood and those giving platelets – can help bolster the blood supply now by making an appointment to give. Visit www.RedCrossBlood.org to make an appointment today!

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.



**American
Red Cross**

Holy Spirit Winter Blood Drive

130 South 6th Street East
Parish Hall

**Thursday, February 1
1 p.m. – 6 p.m.**

Sign up online at
www.redcrossblood.org or at
eadrummond56@comcast.net.
Please plan to donate!



I give blood. Will you?

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

130 South 6th Street East
Missoula, MT 59801-4222

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Permit #157

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



HOLY SPIRIT | EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING

Meeting begins after the 10:15 a.m.
service in the parish hall

January 28, 2024

