

Holy Spirit Vestry Minutes

Monday, April 24, 2017

PRESENT: John Crowley, Helen Matveyeff, Jesse Jaeger, Don Gisselbeck, Glenn Hladek, Ann Suter, Jeannie Warner, Candice Lindsay, Paul Pozin, Scott Jourdonnais, Terri Ann Grotzinger, Tracey Gage

Guests: Bob Deaton and Clem Work

Excused: Karen Shelly, Julie Benson

- 1) Opening Prayer – Tracey Gage
- 2) Administration/Business Matters – **Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items; Seconded; Motion Passed.**
- 3) Parishioners’ concerns and correspondence – Terri read a thank you note from the Parenting Place for the gift of \$430.00
- 4) Finances The Profit/Loss – Candy gave the Finance/Investment report. **Motion to approve the Treasurer’s report for later audit; Seconded; Motion Passed**
- 5) Clem Work and Bob Deaton provided information about the Studer Trust projects in Myanmar that HSP members have been involved in. They request recognition of the Spoken English Teaching Project as a project of the church. Specifically to:
 - recognize the significance of the project and make it more visible
 - to attain the 501 (c) 3 status
 - to have a more formal accounting processThe Vestry will work to provide a decision by the next vestry meeting.
- 6) Old Business –
 - a) Vestry Retreat – will be scheduled through a Doodle poll.
 - b) Safe Guarding God’s Children – online training needs to be completed by all new vestry members. All vestry members need to read and sign-off on the bylaws and model policies
 - c) Youth Group Sleepover – Jesse
The youth-group sleepover is scheduled for 7:00 pm on April 28, 2017 at Holy Spirit Parish, ending the following morning at 8:00 am. The focus is on Teen Homelessness. Friday from 7:00-9:00 pm will be open to the public for a documentary showing and a teach-in. The participants will sleep outside. The ratio of adults to children will be 1 to 5. They are asking for donations of toiletries for the Salvation Army
 - d) Graffiti–JJ (officer assigned to Hellgate High) would like to see the graffiti to determine if it is gang-related. We believe Bob will use his power washer on the brick.
 - e) The vestry would like to recognize and thank Jim McFarlane for all his hard work with landscaping and maintenance for HSP. **Motion to approve a gift card of \$150.00 from the Missoula Downtown Association; Seconded; Motion Passed.** Ann will bring a card to the next meeting for signing.

f) Funds collected during Lent and Holy Week will be going to the churches in Jerusalem and the Middle East and Emmaus Campus Ministry.

7) New Business –

a) The Irene Mosier Estate refunded HSP with their share of the Missoula County property taxes in the amount of \$2411.96.

b) The Vestry is asked to help with Rummage Sale clean-up on May 6th

c) Camp Marshall Sunday is scheduled for May 7th

d) Next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2017 at 12:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Suter

Clerk of the Vestry

April Rector's Report to Vestry

With Rev. Terri just returning from extended leave, there is no report in April for the meeting.
Faithfully,

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger
Rector

April Vestry Ministry Reports

A) Communications – Scott Jourdonnais (Judy Parock, Chair)

Much of our communications work this month was focused on promoting our Holy Week and Easter services. We updated the photos on the website rotator on the homepage to give it more of an Easter feel and to highlight our Holy Week and Easter services. The link to the Holy Week and Easter services was placed prominently on the home page so that the information was easy to find. In fact we created a Holy Week and Easter services page on the website under the “Worship” tab. We embedded an Easter video from a company called Acts 8 on that page and provided full descriptions of the services along with photos. We also used the Easter video on our Facebook page with a listing of our Easter services. Information about our Holy Week and Easter services was also included in our Spirited Times e-newsletter and on our phone message. Our weekly ad in the Missoulian on the Religion page was updated to reflect the change in service times for Easter Sunday, and a news release was sent to the Missoulian with information about our Holy Week and Easter services. We made use of our sandwich board signs to display information about our Holy Week and Easter services the week prior to Easter. The banner for Easter was put up in the church yard prior to Easter by Frank Sherman. It will be up through the month of May.

Photos of our Holy Week and Easter events were taken by Mark Dvarishkis and Judy Parock, and those photos were posted to our church Facebook page and also used to update the look of that page. We sent some lovely photos from Holy Week and Easter to the national church for their use which were displayed as part of their Facebook page.

Much of our time this past month was also spent publicizing our Lenten program. Gretchen advertised our weekly Lenten program in the Missoulian. We also had radio ads on KUFM regarding the Lenten program for the first two weeks of the series. I worked to develop a poster for each week of the Lenten program to advertise the current week’s Lenten speaker. Our final Lenten potluck featured the Makeci Family, Congolese refugees, who sang songs of faith and resilience that the father, Joel, wrote. We had a wonderful crowd for this potluck, and a video of the family singing, posted on Facebook, has reached 365 people. It was a wonderful end to our Lenten series.

A news release to the Missoulian regarding the Ukrainian egg decorating brought in a number of people from the community to participate in that event. Over 30 people came to the workshop, and many of them were from the community. The news release and publicity for the March Compline service brought in 31 participants. The Compline service has had a good turnout for its service the last two months. We’ve also been working with the Rummage Sale committee to get weekly updates out about their event in the bulletin and the Spirited Times.

Efforts were made to make more use of our church Facebook page to publicize our church events. We created “events” for the Youth Group meetings and for all our Holy Week and Easter services. These “events” allowed us to provide a greater description of the event and to invite people to attend. We’ll continue to make more use of these tools going forward.

Rotators for our church website homepage and posters for a number of post-Easter activities were created and put in readiness for when Easter was over. We’ve begun advertising for the

“Trapped in America’s Safety Net” Book Study and the Spring Rummage Sale in the Spirited Times and the Sunday bulletin and on the website.

– Judy Parock, Chair

- A) Holiday Market – Tracey Gage (Tracey Gage and Diane Rasmuson, Co-Chairs)

No report

– Tracey Gage

- B) Newcomers – Helen Matveyeff (Frank and Beverley Sherman, Jim and Jeanne Clark, Co-Chairs)

The Newcomers group has not met but continues to contact those that are identified as guests, visitors and newcomers, provide Welcome bags, and any other help as asked.

– Frank Sherman, Co-Chair

- C) Parish Life – Don Gisselbeck (Kathy Swannack, Coffee Hours; Anne Cohen, receptions)

Reception committee report: The Reception Committee provided the Easter Vigil reception.

– Anne Cohen

Coffee Hours: So far Coffee Hour has run smoother than last year. More people sign up on the sheets than contact me to coordinate. It almost feels like we are back to where we started except I am making sure every Sunday is covered. We do need help with Coffee Hours in May.

– Kathy Swannack

- D) Properties – Karen Shelly/Grounds; Phil Mediate/Buildings (Margaret Borg and Kevin Borg, co-chairs)

Properties/Buildings Report: The light fixtures in the entry area outside the Guild Room were changed to LED fixtures. One fixture had ceased to work, and changing out both of the fixtures provides much better light to that area and to the Church School stairs. The cost of this repair was \$375.

– Phil Mediate

Properties/Grounds Report: Fresh Cut Lawn Care conducted a spring clean-up on the lawn and shrub areas, and in the parking lot. They also spent time cleaning gravel out of the boulevard strip lawn east of the parking lot. A great deal of gravel was displaced during the past winter’s snow removal. The irrigation systems will be tested and started up in the next week or two. Parking lot trees were pruned, grasses and perennial were cut back, pansies were planted, arborvitae were shaped, and shrub beds were cleaned and weeded by Sue Larose and Karen Shelly.

– Karen Shelly

- E) Rummage Sale – Tracey Gage (Mary Tromly, Chair)

The rummage sale committee held a meeting on 10 April to discuss possible changes in floor plan and procedure. A decision was made to have books and shoes together in the entrance way. We hope to make more room for both. Linens will remain in the same location as the new spot worked well last year. We will continue to have a cash box for the boutique but not to count the money separately. Eight new clothing racks will be available for use and Anne Cohen

will be in charge of placement. Everyone is full of enthusiasm for the coming sale and looking forward to two great sale days.

– Mary Tromly, Chair

F) Social Concerns – Jesse Jaeger (Carla Mettling, Chair)

1. **Bob Brewer presented a request from Habitat for Humanity:** Bob described the Good Neighbor build program and said that SCC participated in 2009 and 2013 with fund-raising projects for Habitat. Bob is asking SCC to participate again this year at whatever level they wish for financial donation, work days, and lunches on a build day. They are building 2 houses between May 1st and Oct 31st. SCC discussed and decided to defer a decision until next month when the unexpended total of this year's funds is known.
2. **Progress on the Youth Sleep-Out on April 28th at HSP:** Jesse Jaeger is leading the group as a joint project of Empower Montana and the Salvation Army's Drop –In Center for Youth in Missoula to raise awareness about youth homelessness here. Youth from our church, other churches, and the community will sleep in tents in HSP's courtyard, if the weather cooperates. If there is inclement weather, they will be in tents in the Parish Hall! There will be an educational event about youth homelessness in Missoula, as the theme of the Sleep-Out, which HSP members may attend. Breakfast will be prepared.
3. **Status of MIC project at HSP:** Dorcie said that the research phase with Parenting Place is just about finished, and relationship building has started with other interested churches. The Exchange Club and Donation Warehouse are other entities involved with Parenting Place. Work delineating projects with Hellgate High is proceeding, which may involve some use of HSP facilities. Cooperative use of the church's parking lot during off times will be explored again. The annual MIC Faith in Action Summit dinner and celebration will be held again this year at St Anthony's Parish on June 1st. Tickets are \$8 and available from Dorcie.
4. **Update on Advocacy group:** Plans are moving along, according to Lucia. Valerie Webster, past President of Montana Associations of Christians (MAC) and Episcopal priest at Big Sky, is developing a power point presentation on Advocacy, as it relates to church, state, nation, and world. It is for use around the Diocese; she would be happy to bring it to HSP. Gretchen emailed a pamphlet from the Lutheran church on the same subject. Valerie also encourages HSP to send a representative to MAC and suggests we look at the Episcopal Public Policy Network on the National Church website. Pru Randall also has material from the national church. Bob Deaton is working on strategy and approaches to advocacy for social change.
5. **SALAM'S celebrate Islam Week and Soft Landing:** Clem sent around an e-mail about SALAM, with events scheduled from April 24 through the 30th. There is a Middle-Eastern banquet this Monday, April 24, at First Presbyterian Church, 235 S. 5th St. Reserve a place at SALAMMissoula.eventbrite.com. And there is an Academy Award-winning film, "The White Helmets" this Tuesday, April 25, at 7 p.m., at the UC Theater on the UM campus, which is about the rescue workers in Syria. Soft Landing refugee resettlement in Missoula is going well. Five volunteers per family are assigned each family to meet their basic needs for transportation, coaching, shopping, and finding resources.
6. **Status of the Aaniih Nakoda College Nursing Scholarships:** Jim Wiley and the committee are waiting to hear about short-term needs which might be met soon. There will be a visit to the college by several committee members to learn more about the program, students, and community. Full-funding of one nursing student is over \$11,000 per year, because students are often supporting children or aged relatives and must give up any jobs they may have to do the nursing program. It is hoped to make it a Diocese-wide project with several

parishes participating to fully support 2 students. A meeting is scheduled with Bishop Carol Gallagher to get her advice and help involving other parishes. Jim, Dorcie, and Carla will attend.

7. **The Myanmar Teaching Project:** Clem Work is moving forward with plans for 8 teachers to return to Myanmar in the fall with the same number going in January. Clem and Bob Deaton are meeting with the Vestry on April 24 to request routing the teaching project funds through the church's 501c3 non-profit designation this year and in the future. They will also provide brief information about the projects in Myanmar which have been done so far through Studer Trust, over the last 4 years.
8. **Thomas Startin's Butterfly Grant Application:** Mr. Startin plans to travel to Africa in the fall, to assist in an AIDS orphanage, which is part of the Hope Child Care Project. He will be accompanied by Tom Carlson, RN, from another Episcopal parish in the Diocese. His request is part of a larger fund-raising effort to meet his expenses and was approved for \$300.

Other Business: It is child-abuse prevention, April Awareness Month. HSP will participate in "Blue Sunday" with blue and silver pinwheels to be placed on the church lawn and given to children after the services on April 23rd. There will be a community showing of "Paper Tigers" on April 25th at 4:30 and 6:30 in the Public Library meeting room, an excellent film about teachers working in a new, intensive way with at-risk high-school students in Walla Walla.

– Carla Mettling, Social Concerns Chair

- G) Spiritual Formation – Glenn Hladek/Phil Mediate (Gretchen Strohmaier, Chair)
TS Eliot Poetry Class—Keith Kuhn and Lindsay Iudicello facilitated this class which studied Eliot's *Four Quartets*. This was a huge success! The group met over 4 evenings at Keith and Wendy's home. The number of participants ranged from 17 to 22 and included a diverse mix of folks in terms of age group, and typical church participation level.

Also during March we hosted the Bishop for his annual visit and had Confirmation. We arranged a time for the Bishop to share about the state of the diocese and a group of 20 people participated in that.

Warm Spirit Project. In March the 5 girls (4th and 5th graders) who form the Warm Spirit Project, used their Butterfly Grant Money to purchase supplies for the Watson's Children's Shelter. The management team at Kohl's worked with them to find the best deals and help their money stretch as far as possible. The girls purchased \$1,200 worth of bedding, shower curtains, bath mats and toys with their \$300 of grant money.

Lenten Series. The bulk of the series happened in March. This year our focus was *Healthy & Whole: Celebrating Strength through Faith*. With General Convention's suggestion and encouragement we set out to learn more about mental health issues. We learned about the faith health connection, depression, prevention of suicide, traumatic childhood experiences and resilience. Participation numbers were smaller this year, but consistent, typically 35 to 40. We had a larger turn out on the evening that the Congolese family performed music.

Julie Benson offered a two part Sunday morning class for adults, *God's Spirit Everywhere*. It was well attended and she hopes to facilitate a similar offering again.

Willie Hoffer continues to offer Centering Prayer on a monthly basis (the 3rd Tuesday of the month) with a consistent group of participants both within and outside of our parish.

– Gretchen Strohmaier, Director of Spiritual Formation

Youth Ministry:

In April, Barb Morrison led the QUEST class in a Ukrainian Egg workshop. We held our regular youth group and prepared for our two late April events - the Clark Fork River Clean-up on April 22, and the Youth Sleep Out on Homelessness with Empower MT, on Friday April 28. In May, we're kicking off our annual donation drive for Grace Camp backpacks and will be hosting Camp Marshall Sunday on May 7th.

– Lindsay Iudicello, Director of Youth Ministry

- H) Stewardship – Paul Polzin (Paul Polzin, Chair)
No report.