

HOLY SPIRIT VESTRY MINUTES

Monday, December 8, 2014

PRESENT: Lucy Beighle, Julie Benson, Margaret Borg, Lance Collister, Mark Dvarishkis, Bill Earhart, Sue LaRose, Candice Lindsay, Sue Lowery, Carla Mettling, Paul Polzin, Bob Wattenberg, Clem Work, Terri Ann Grotzinger

EXCUSED:

GUEST: Jim Clark

1. Lucy opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. Spiritual Reflection –Terri shared a passage from The Book of Acts, Chapter 4 and a discussion followed regarding money and values.
3. Administration/Business items - Items on Consent Agenda:
 - i. Minutes of the November 10th meeting
 - ii. Ministry Reports (attached)
 - iii. Credit Card Statement

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items; seconded. Action: Motion passed.
4. Consideration of parishioners' concerns and correspondence:
 - a. Read letters from Mountain Home Montana, Parenting Place and Montana Food Bank Network thanking us for our contributions.
 - b. Newcomers: Recent newcomers to the parish in the last month were mentioned.
5. Treasurer's Report –
 - a. ***Motion to approve the Treasurer's reports as submitted for further audit; seconded. Action: Motion passed.*** Year-to-date our operating budget projected a deficit of \$55,720. Actual deficit is \$40,120. Therefore our deficit is better than expected by \$15,600. Pledges and other income are over what was budgeted, and some expenses are less than budgeted.
 - b. Proposed 2015 Budget – items below were discussed in order to prepare for Budget 2015 approval in January; no decisions were made.
 - i. Personnel Committee recommendations – discussion regarding personnel hours and insurance as Denominational Health Plan policy requires that employees working 1500 hours or more per year be provided health insurance.
 - ii. Social Concerns Committee MIC proposal – to add a budget line item of \$1500. It was noted that this would result in a Diocesan assessment on the amount.
 - iii. Compline has added about 5 hours per month for the Organist that is outside of her normal salary/hours. We will need to consider this as part of our budget discussion.
6. Memorial Foundation – No report this month

7. Old Business:

- a. Major expenditure planning – Estimates are coming in so planning for future capital improvements can be considered and prioritized.
- b. Vestry nominating committee – consideration of new Vestry member nominations for election at Annual Meeting on January 25, 2015.

8. New Business:

- a. The Vestry of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church on December 8, 2014, after discussing the amount to be paid to the Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger as a parsonage allowance, on motion duly made and seconded, adopted the following resolution: Whereas the Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger is employed as a minister of the Gospel of Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, Missoula, Montana, Diocese of Montana, which does not provide a residence for her, the Vestry resolves that of the total compensation of \$81,930, to be paid to the Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger during 2015, that \$20,000 be designated as a parsonage allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

9. Ministry Reports:

- a. Update on Mosier property – Property was sold and closed on and will net about \$277,000.
- b. Stewardship update – now at \$340,090.
- c. Gretchen Strohmaier met with Bishop Brookhart regarding Ordination for Holy Orders to the church at large and he has approved that she go forward with a discernment team at the parish.
- d. Dorcie Dvarishkis met with the Bishop and Commission on Ministry and has been approved for Postulancy as she seeks Ordination to Holy Orders – Deacon.

10. Other:

- a. Bishop Brookhart's annual visitation to Holy Spirit is set for February 1, 2015 and meeting with the Vestry proposed for Saturday, January 31 at 4pm. Request for both outgoing and incoming Vestry members to attend.
- b. Request for Annual Reports from Vestry Ministries for the Annual Meeting; deadline is January 7, 2015.
- c. Thank you to A'Lisa Scott for her years in Youth Ministry with a card and gift card. **Motion to approve purchasing a Gift Certificate in the amount of \$150 to thank A'Lisa Scott; seconded. Action: Approved.**

The next regular meeting of the Vestry will be Monday, January 12th at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Lowery
Clerk of the Vestry

December Rector's Report to Vestry

It seems as though I have been involved with a lot of coordination and collaboration with a number of ministries since our last meeting, along with my regular activities. Fall has flown by and the Staff and I have already been preparing materials for Christmas and beyond. We are hoping that the extra effort now will allow all of us to enter into the Christmas services more fully. Thanks to everyone who has been working with the Staff to make this happen.

Since the last vestry meeting I have met with the following ministry groups: Stewardship, Communications, and Social Concerns. The Personnel Committee of the vestry has also met twice to discuss matters related to 2015 budget planning in preparation for the December meeting of the vestry. The Stewardship drive has been going well and I especially want to commend Molly Bowler and all those who continually lead the parish into strong stewardship throughout the year.

I continue to meet with the 2015 Diocesan Convention planning group led by Gary Swartz. Planning is going very well and Barb Hagen of the Diocese is now part of the collaborative effort. Mark your calendars: the Convention will be Friday, Oct. 3rd, and Saturday, Oct. 4th. The Bishop plans to stay over and be the Celebrant for both worship services on Oct. 5th and we will likely have others from around the diocese who didn't return home the night before.

Bob Wattenberg and I have been working steadily with Jackie Johnson to care for all matters related to the gift of Mosier property to the church. We have now signed all Title paperwork for both the undeveloped lot and the lot with the house and have received checks for both. There are still a few matters to attend to with the Estate Attorney and Jackie is taking the lead in following up with him. Soon we will know the exact monies received. We are all grateful that a family is delighted with their new home, and that we do not have to care for the property over winter.

I continue to offer pre-marital counseling to two couples, roughly every other week for each couple. I continue to meet monthly with the Wardens and the Staff, and meet individually with Wardens and Staff as needed. As Standing Committee President for the Diocese, I am caring for matters as they arise and planning for an upcoming meeting in the New Year. I met with the Missoula Interfaith Collaborative clergy group to continue plans for a joint churches activity in the New Year.

It is hard to believe that Christmas is almost here! It has been another wonderful year serving at Holy Spirit and I am thankful to all of you Vestry members as well as the hard working Staff for your contributions to the leadership of this parish. May God bless this season of Advent and the celebrations of Christmas to come!

Faithfully,

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger
Rector

Vestry Ministry Reports

A) Communications – Lance Collister/Sue LaRose (Judy Parock, Chair)

The Communications Committee met to discuss the placement of our church ads on KUFM and the banner project for the church yard. Based on discussion from the marketing seminar that Lance and Terri attended, it was decided to cluster ads around an event rather than to try and advertise many different events at Holy Spirit. With that in mind we are focusing on Compline at the beginning of each month, and the focus in December will be on the Lessons and Carols service. We decided to take a number of ads allocated to the Lessons and Carols service use them elsewhere during the course of the year, e.g. at Palm Sunday and perhaps our Passport to the Bible Sunday. We will also make use of the University and Community Activities calendar, trying to get our more-community-oriented activities on that venue.

After discussion with Kirk Johnson and the committee regarding the banners to be displayed in the church yard, it was decided to focus on three different banners this year: a general Welcome banner, a banner for Compline and one for Christmas. These would be used in conjunction with a sandwich board sign which would carry more detail about the events than the banners. I have attached copies of the banners that are in production for the church yard. (See attachments) The hardware for the banners has been purchased, and the banners have arrived and were installed this past week.

Gretchen and Nancy are using funds from their budgets to purchase an additional sandwich board sign similar to the one being used for the parking lot sign. That sandwich board sign would be placed to attract foot traffic to church events.

– Judy Parock

B) Holiday Market – Sue Morasco Lowery/Julie Benson (Sarah Towle, Chair)

Holiday Market 2014 raised \$11,690.07. The Bake Sale is scheduled for December 7. Its profits are added to the Holiday Market proceeds for a final total.

– Sarah Towle

C) Newcomers – Carla Mettling/Lance Collister (Frank and Beverley Sherman, Jim and Jeanne Clark, Co-Chairs)

Newcomers has not met for several months and doesn't plan to meet until they hear from Vestry what they are to do next. So there is no report. They are waiting for instructions about how to proceed.

D) Parish Life – Margaret Borg

E) Personnel – Mark Dvarishkis/Lucy Beighle

F) Properties – Bill Earhart/Clem Work

No report.

G) Rummage Sale – Sue LaRose/Julie Benson (Mary Tromly, Chair)

No report.

H) Social Concerns – Clem Work/Carla Mettling

No report.

- I) Spiritual Formation – Lucy Beighle/Bill Earhart (Gretchen Strohmaier, Chair)
 Church School—We have some new families assimilating into church school and we are enjoying that new energy. Children are continuing to explore the theme, *Jesus is the Light of the World*. We recently used glow sticks during our children’s worship time to illustrate the light that comes from each of us as we share Jesus’ light with others. Children are preparing for the Christmas pageant during the early Christmas Eve service.

ADVENTure Craft Night—About 35 people joined us on the first Sunday of Advent to make Advent wreathes and other holiday crafts. It was a lovely opportunity to be creative, welcome the season of Advent and interact with other members of our church family. There was a nice demographic mix among attendees, extending beyond families with young children.

Caregiving Support Group—this group continues to meet 3 - 4 times a year. They met in November to catch up and share the joys and struggles of supporting aging family members. The group recently received some articles from Theresa Ragsdale at Missoula Aging Services related to topics of aging and depression/isolation.

Conversations with Scripture: A Study of Mark began on Sunday mornings with Terri as the leader. We are learning that more and more people are interested in classes offered at times other than Sunday morning and so we will work to offer some alternative times.

Jerry Fetz is doing a poetry reading around the theme of *Living Water* on Wednesday December 3rd at 7:00 pm in the choir pews.

We will celebrate the Feast of Saint Nicholas on Thursday December 4th by decorating special St. Nicholas cookies in the church kitchen from 4:00 - 5:00. Participants are bringing canned food donations for the food bank.

– Gretchen Strohmaier, Chair

- J) Stewardship – Margaret Borg (Molly Bowler, Chair)
 PLEDGE UPDATE AS OF 12/04/2014:

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Total number of pledges returned	197	195
Total number of dollars pledges	\$332,403.00	\$338,240.00
Total number of pledges remaining the same	95	100
Total number of pledges increasing	64	68
Total number of pledges decreasing	32	19
Total number of newcomer pledges	6	8

For 2015:

100 pledges remain the same for a total of	\$155,460.00	
68 pledges up for a total of	146,623.00	+26,815.00
19 pledges down for a total of	31,285.00	-12,440.00

2 No Pledge		-2,520.00
Lost through death or transfer out (2)		-1,960.00
8 newcomer pledges for a total of	<u>4,872.00</u>	
STEWARDSHIP TOTAL, 12/04/2014	<u>\$338,240.00</u>	

K) Nominating Committee – Lucy Beighle

The following people have accepted our nomination to the Vestry slate:

- 1) Jeannie Warner
- 2) Karen Shelly
- 3) Scott Jourdonnais
- 4)
- 5)