

Holy Spirit Vestry Minutes

Monday January 16, 2017

Present: John Crowley, Marla Mettling, Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger, Jeannie Warner, Candice Lindsay, Margaret Borg, Paul Polzin, Karen Shelly, Phil Mediate, Scott Jourdonnais, Lance Collister, and Tracey Gage

Excused: Julie Benson

- 1) Parishioners' Opening Prayers & Spiritual Reflection – John Crowley, Terri Ann Grotzinger
- 2) Administration/Business Matter – **Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items; Seconded; Motion Passed.**
- 3) Parishioners' concerns, correspondence and newcomers – Terri Ann
- 4) Finances – The Profit/Loss- YTD money over/under reviewed by Candice. The Memorial Foundation Board (MFB)/Vestry was reported on – Paul Polzin
- 5) Old Business – Paul update on stewardship, Margaret – report on support for Gretchen Strohmaier, Paul –update on yard maintenance/snow removal. –**Motion to approve the 2017 proposed budget; Seconded; Motion Passed.**
- 6) New Business- Paul reported on Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Terri thanked the outgoing vestry members for their support. Julie Benson, Margaret Borg, Lance Collister, and Carla Mettling. New Vestry Members are: Helen Matveyeff, Jesse Jaeger, Glenn Hladek, and Don Gisselbeck
- 7) **Motion to approve Paul Polzin as Senior Warden; Seconded; Motion Passed.**
- 8) Other
The annual Meeting is January 29th.
An abbreviated Vestry Meeting will be immediately following the Annual Meeting.
The Next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for February14, 2017

Respectively Submitted
Tracey Gage

January Rector's Report to Vestry

Since we last met, my time has been spent preparing for Christmas and the end of this year. Worship services were planned well in advance, coordinating with Staff regarding music and all aspects of the liturgy so as to have things come together as smoothly as possible. As I write this, I can say that Lessons and Carols was a lovely service, well attended with a number of guests and friends of parishioners present, and followed by a well-received reception in the Parish Hall. Special thanks to all the work by Dr. Nancy Cooper and the Choir – wonderfully done! Thanks, too, to Wendy Kuhn and Molly Bowler who with other volunteers offered a beautiful, warm reception. It was great to see so many staying after to enjoy the delicious food and to share time together.

Pastorally, I have met with several newcomers who are now settling into the parish, as well as visiting those in the hospital as needed. I served as the clergy for Gabe Jourdonnais' Eagle Scout Ceremony, offering the Invocation and Benediction. Congratulations, Gabe!

I have met with the Stewardship committee and we continue to follow up regarding the financial pledges for 2017, and to plan for on-going education about the needs of the parish regarding stewardship going forward.

I attended the monthly Clericus and it was well worth the time. There are wonderful clergy from Troy down to Stevensville and it is a blessing to support and be supported by such colleagues. I also attended the gathering at Har Shalom called the Missoula Menorah Campaign against hate, inviting everyone to have a Menorah or a picture of one in their window throughout the season of joy and light. I was pleased to see strong lay and clergy representation from Holy Spirit, as well as the wider community.

Every year I prepare a Liturgical Planning Calendar in collaboration with the Staff to identify what Eucharistic Prayer (from the Book of Common Prayer and Enriching our Worship) and what form of the Prayers of the People will be used each Sunday and at special liturgies. These are chosen based on the liturgical season of the year and any special rites to be offered (such as Baptism and Confirmation), as well as when children will be present for part or all of a service. The 2017 Liturgical Calendar is now prepared.

I am looking forward to our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services which are just days away now. Once the services are offered, I will take some time away to recreate in this beautiful place we call home. The Rev. Tom Lee has offered to cover for any emergency pastoral needs that may come up during that time, and the Rev. Steve Oreskovich will offer the worship services for Sunday, January 1st. I will return for services on Sunday, January 8th.

My thanks to all of you on Vestry and to the parish Staff for all your time and talents so willingly shared. I appreciate you more than you'll ever know!

Faithfully,

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger
Rector

Vestry Ministry Reports

- A) Communications – Lance Collister/Scott Jourdonnais (Judy Parock, Chair)
Following the December Vestry meeting, the Communications Ministry met to discuss the allocation of our ads on KUFM for 2017. Currently we have three general ads on KUFM that air on the following programs: “Wait, Wait, Don’t Tell Me” (12), “On Being” (24), and “The Pea Green Boat” (12). We think that this distribution of advertising will help us to reach families with children, a focus of our ministry. After reviewing our ads for specific events, we decided to focus our event advertising on Compline, Lessons and Carols, the Lenten Series, the Women’s Retreat, our Fall Start-up, and the Blessing of the Animals.

Much of the work this month focused on getting out our message about our Lessons and Carols and Christmas services. We updated the look of the rotator on the website to make sure that it had a Christmas feel to it and that it also contained all the information regarding our services in an easy-to-find format. The links on the home page led to more detailed information on our interior pages and calendar. In addition to our ads on KUFM for Lessons and Carols, we also submitted a news release to the Missoulian regarding both our Lessons and Carols service and our Christmas Eve services which ran the Saturday before both events (the Christmas Eve service release ran two Saturdays before the event). We have had the banners up in the church yard for the month of December advertising Compline and the Rejoice banner for Christmas, and Gretchen also used the sandwich board sign which provided additional information regarding church events to foot traffic. We created posters and rotators for Lessons and Carols, the shadow box presentation of the Christmas Story at the 4 p.m. Christmas Eve service and our Christmas services. Gretchen featured the posters on the sandwich board signs which were placed out by the sidewalk prior to the events.

Our Facebook page was updated throughout the month with pictures from church events, including the Advent crafts and the Advent retreat. We also created Facebook events for both Lessons and Carols and the Christmas Eve services and invited Facebook friends to share them on their pages, thereby increasing interest in the events.

– Judy Parock, Chair

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

No report

– Tracey Gage

- C) Newcomers – Margaret Borg (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

- D) Parish Life – Ann Suter (Kathy Swannack, Coffee Hours; Anne Cohen, receptions)

Reception committee report: No report.

– Anne Cohen

Coffee Hours: Kathy Swannack provided a scaled-down Coffee Hour for Sunday, January 1, and made use of left-over cookies in the freezer. The remainder of the Sundays in January are covered for Coffee Hour.

– Kathy Swannack

- E) Properties – Karen Shelly/Grounds; Phil Mediate/Buildings (Chair is vacant.)

Properties/Buildings Report: No report.

– Phil Mediate

Properties/Grounds Report: No report.

– Karen Shelly

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

The dates for the Spring Rummage Sale have been set for April 28 and 29.

– Mary Tromly, Chair

- G) Social Concerns – Carla Mettling (Carla Mettling, Chair)

1. Dorcie reported on the Research and Synthesizing Teams for HSP's MIC-related projects at Hellgate and Parenting Place. The Hellgate Research Team, comprised of Jeff and Elizabeth Serviss, Jim Clark, Torian Donahoe, and Kirsten Hand, will talk to the relevant people at St. Paul's and UCC about what has worked in their projects at Hellgate High School. The Parenting Place Research Team, composed of Pru Randall, Annita Rognas, and Margaret Watson, will confer with Teresa Nygaard, Director of the Parenting Place, about the ways that HSP can help meet their needs. Also this team will talk to Travis Deaton, President of the Exchange Club, on helping out this organization, which is affiliated with the Parenting Place. After the Research Teams have completed their information gathering, 2 Strategy Teams will figure out which suggested avenues of work and action are feasible for HSP. The Hellgate Strategy Team is made up of Michelle Gray and Pat King. The Parenting Place Strategy Team has Anne Cohen and Bob Deaton on it.
2. Bob informed us that the 17th annual blood drive will be held on Feb. 23, 2017. It will be coordinated by him and Orson Murray. Six volunteers are needed for 1-2 hour shifts from 2 to 7 p.m. at the “recovery table” to talk to blood donors and help them to refreshments. Lucia volunteered to bake cookies for the donors, and Audrey Murray, Orson's daughter,

will help in one of the shifts.

3. Bob, Dorcie, Carla, and Pat reported on the MIC leadership training, held at St. Paul's on 12/5 and 12/6. Casey Dunning, Director of MIC, led the training and presented a model for organizing member churches for community service projects—the listening and reporting sessions some of us conducted at HSP last year, followed by discernment, identifying projects, and taking action. There was also a focus on advocacy at the local, state, and national levels. Carla introduced the work of RESULTS with a powerpoint, her RESULTS co-leader Judy Zizzo, presented on how to frame and organize letters to the editor, lobbying letters, and talks to be most effective. And Deborah Frandsen, Jon Tester's Regional Director, spoke to the group about the crucial importance of advocacy and how to do it legally and effectively.
4. Lucia announced that HSP would be having another sock, hat, and glove drive for the Poverello on January 22nd and 29th. She will bring in a box for the back of the sanctuary, where members can donate new or gently used socks, hats, and gloves for adults.
5. Glenn told us of the admirable after-school program put on by the Salvation Army for homeless teenagers and will find out more about it to report in January.
6. Clem updated us on the work of Soft Landing. This group has 2 paid employees—an Executive Director and Assistant Director. And it has a Community Center at 939 Stevens, where classes in English, Driving, and computers are being offered to the 9 families that have been brought to Missoula—one from Iraq, 5 from the Congo, and 3 from Eritrea.
7. Jesse asked us to help usher at the MLK Celebration on January 16th at St. Paul's that his group, Empower Montana, helps put on. Lucia, Clem, Dorcie, and Carla volunteered to help.

– Carla Mettling, Social Concerns Chair

H) Spiritual Formation – Julie Benson (Gretchen Strohmaier, Chair)

Church School and Spiritual Formation:

Advent Quiet Day Retreat: We had 19 people for our retreat. This is the most participants we've had. That number included a couple of people from the community, as well as some brand-new folks who've been attending Holy Spirit. Both Tanya Lodahl and Willie Hoffer helped to facilitate the retreat with me. It was well received and gave some more exposure to the practice of centering prayer. It does seem that interest in contemplative practices is growing.

Centering Prayer: Willie Hoffer offered Centering Prayer for an hour once a week in December. The group ranged from 6 to 11 participants (including a couple of community members who do not attend Holy Spirit), and they decided to continue to meet once a month throughout this New Year. They will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 4:30 to 5:30.

Interrupted by Hope: This Sunday morning adult class for Advent has been a lovely addition to our Explorations offerings. Class size has ranged from 6 to 11 participants and the format of viewing film clips followed by discussion has been very successful. Participants have been very enthusiastic about the application and personal sharing. Interest in these sort of small group connections seems to be growing within our parish.

Refugee Kit: Church School children decided to donate a portion of their offering money to purchase supplies for a refugee kit for families immigrating to Missoula through Soft Landing. The week before Christmas a couple of children met at Target and selected supplies to create a kit for toddlers. They followed the suggested supply list provided by Soft Landing and purchased things like, diapers, shampoo, clothing and toys.

Shadow Box Performance: At the early service on Christmas Eve Kaye Harberd and a few of our older Church School children performed the Christmas story through a shadow box presentation. It was well received and gave a new twist to the presentation of this story. A number of children also played their instruments during this service. It added to the festival spirit of the evening.

– Gretchen Strohmaier, Director of Spiritual Formation

Youth Ministry:

This past month, Youth Ministry hosted a Christmas sledding and white elephant party. With sixteen people in attendance, we had a blast! In January P.J. Willett and I will begin sharing the youth director position. P.J. will lead our youth groups and other events while I continue to handle the planning and communications. Many of you know P.J. since he has volunteered with the youth group for the past several years, been a Church School helper, and is a veteran Camp Marshall staffer. I'm really excited about having him on staff!

Thanks for your support of youth ministry at Holy Spirit!

– Lindsay Iudicello, Director of Youth Ministry

I) Stewardship – Paul Polzin (Paul Polzin, Chair)

	2016	2017
Total number of pledges returned	187	178
Total number of dollars pledged	\$353,230.65	\$347,372.27
Total number of pledges remaining the same	55	64
Total number of pledges increasing	107	92
Total number of pledges decreasing	14	15
Total number of new pledges	11	7

For 2017:

64 pledges remaining the same for a total of	\$111,758.00	
92 pledges up for a total of	209,988.20	+27,759.55
15 pledges down for a total of	16,854.00	-7,750.00
4 No Pledge		-3,060.00
Lost through death or transfer out (2)		-2,760.00
7 new pledges for a total of	8,772.07	

STEWARDSHIP TOTAL, 12/30/16 **\$347,372.27**

J) Pictorial Directory – Jeannie Warner

The pictorial directory proof was returned to Lifetouch by the deadline of December 23. We should have the pictorial directories for distribution to the parish by mid to late January.

– Jeannie Warner