

Holy Spirit Vestry Minutes

Monday, March 20, 2017

PRESENT: John Crowley, Helen Matveyeff, Jesse Jaeger, Don Gisselbeck, Glenn Hladek, Ann Suter, Jeannie Warner, Candice Lindsay, Paul Pozin, Scott Jourdonnais, Karen Shelly,

Excused: Tracey Gage, Julie Benson, Terri Ann Grotzinger

- 1) Opening Prayer – Jesse Jaeger Psalm 104
- 2) Reflection – Due to her family situation Terri decided to take some time off from HSP. Bill Baumgarten is filling in. Terri is scheduled to be back the week of April 17th, with April 23rd being the first service she will be leading.
- 3) Administration/Business Matters – **Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items; Seconded; Motion Passed.**
- 4) Finances The Profit/Loss – YTD money over/under budget was reviewed by Candice. The Harrington money came in from the last quarter of 2016 at \$902.00. Bill Baumgarten’s compensation plus diocese approved travel reimbursement will be between \$5,000.00 and \$6,000.00. Motion to approve the Treasurer’s report for later audit; Seconded; Motion Passed
- 5) The Memorial Foundation Board (MFB)/Vestry –Paul Pozin is on the Foundation’s Board as a vestry representative.
- 6) Old Business –
 - a) Vestry Retreat – will be scheduled after Terri returns.
 - 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 6:00 pm on April 28, 2017 at Holy Spirit Parish, ending the following morning at 9:00 am. The theme is Teen Homelessness. There will be a panel discussion, a documentary and care-packages will be made. This is part of a wider campaign to address teen homelessness.
 - d) Pancake Supper – We had a very successful pancake supper. About 75 people attended and about \$300.00 was collected.
 - e) Graffiti–
More graffiti was found on the garage door and on the side of the building on the brick. Paul painted the garage door and we believe Bob will use his power washer on the brick once the water is turned on. Elizabeth Serviss noticed what looked to be a fight or a “rumble” in the parking lot by Hellgate High School. The patrolman, JJ, who is assigned to Hellgate intervened and broke it up
 - f) Lawn Company – Fresh Cut Lawn Care is our new lawn care company. Lawn care and irrigation will be about \$3600.00 per/summer. Parking lot snow removal will be about \$50.00 per event. We have budgeted about \$7500.00 for this. Karen suggested a gift for Jim McFarlane.

7) New Business –

- a) Holy Week activities. Vestry members are expected to help wherever and whenever they can, especially clean-up.
- b) Next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2017 at 12:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Suter
Clerk of the Vestry

March Rector's Report to Vestry

With Rev. Terri on extended leave, there is no report in March for the meeting.
Faithfully,

The Rev. Terri Ann Grotzinger
Rector

March Vestry Ministry Reports

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

Planning has been underway throughout the end of February and into March promoting the start of Lent and our Lenten program. A Reboot for Lent video produced by Acts 8 was used to promote Lent and our Lenten program on Facebook. This was a wonderful video explaining what the season of Lent means from an Episcopal perspective. This group made an Ash Wednesday and an Easter video last year that we used on Facebook. We plan to use the Easter video again this year on both our Facebook page and the church website. Our ads on KUFM, in addition to promoting our monthly Compline service, also will showcase our weekly Lenten program, “Healthy and Whole: Celebrating Strength through Faith.” Our banners in the church yard also highlight both our Lenten program and our monthly Compline service. Thank you to Frank Sherman for faithfully changing out the banners. Gretchen Strohmaier prepared a press release to the Missoulian which outlined our 2017 Lenten program, “Healthy and Whole: Celebrating Strength through Faith,” and we hope this will generate some community interest in our Lenten series. Kirk Johnson has created a set of banners for the parish hall which will become our Healthy & Whole Quilt. Parishioners will be encouraged throughout Lent to create a quilt square which highlights their vision of what “healthy and whole” looks like. It will be great fun to see the finished product. This part of our Lenten project has been promoted in the monthly newsletter, our weekly Sunday bulletin and in the Spirited Times.

We developed posters for our Ash Wednesday services, our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, our Lenten program and the bishop’s visitation. We used that artwork to advertise the events on our church Facebook page, and posted pictures from these events to our Facebook page. Pictures from our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper were submitted to the national church for display on their Facebook page as well. The sandwich board signs have been brought in to use to advertise our weekly Lenten program and other church activities.

I worked with Lindsay Iudicello and Keith Kuhn to develop a poster and a publicity program for their poetry class on T.S. Eliot’s Four Quartets. Different weekly announcements have been used in the bulletin and Spirited Times to promote the poetry gatherings, and we have used the posters around the church buildings and on the website and Facebook page to promote the group as well. Their first gathering included 21 people which is an amazing number! I also prepared a poster for the new Sunday morning Lenten study, “God’s Spirit Everywhere.” We have a rotator ready to use on the church website to promote this event as well. I also revamped “The Wider Episcopal Church” bulletin board in the parish hall to give it a more inviting look.

With Rev. Terri taking an extended leave from the parish, it was important to get that word out to the congregation in a timely manner. We did that by sending out “A Note from the Rector” via our email program to the congregation. That same note was included in the Sunday bulletin the first Sunday that Rev. Terri was away. We also put the announcement in the March issue of our monthly mailed newsletter, *Paraclete*. By using all of these venues, we hoped that we reached as much of the congregation as possible and communicated that the life of the parish would go on in her absence. Weekly announcements in the Sunday bulletins will keep people informed of Rev. Terri’s leave and when she plans to return to the parish.

We've refreshed the rotator on the Home page of the website with pictures appropriate to the Lenten season and used those pictures to draw people further into the website where there is more detailed information about the various Lenten activities at Holy Spirit. We are working with the Rummage Sale committee to plan their publicity for the sale. They want to have a dedicated Rummage Sale page on the website where all kinds of Rummage Sale information can be posted. Elizabeth has created a very attractive Rummage Sale page for them on the website. Please check it out!
– Judy Parock, Chair

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

No report
– Tracey Gage

C) 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

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

Reception committee report: The reception committee provided food and service for the reception for the confirmands on Sunday, March 5. The committee also provided food and service for a memorial reception in February.
– Anne Cohen

Coffee Hours: Hosts have volunteered for the remaining Coffee Hours in March. I will soon begin working on the remainder of the schedule for April and May.
– Kathy Swannack

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

Properties/Buildings Report: The front door lock to the church office was repaired after a key became stuck in it. The cost of that repair was \$326.84. Church buildings have once again been marked with graffiti in the same places as last time, the garage door and the corner of the kitchen wall on the alley.
– Phil Mediate

Properties/Grounds Report: Jim McFarlane is stepping down from his landscape maintenance service role after many years of dedicated work. We very much appreciate all that he did for Holy Spirit. Paul Polzin and Karen Shelly reviewed the lawn maintenance and snow removal responsibilities with Sean Sandau of Fresh Cut Lawn Care who will be starting in April. Annual cost will be approximately \$3600, depending on precipitation.
– Karen Shelly

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

The dates and times of the 2017 rummage sale are Friday 5 May from 9 - 3 and Saturday 6 May from 9 - 1 . There will be a bag sale on Sat. 6 May from 12 - 1.

The committee decided that since everything went so well last year we do not need to make any big changes this year. A pick-up date has not been confirmed but when I get it I will send it along to you. We want to discourage early drop off at the church-- there is simply not enough storage room. I will handle some overflow in my garage if necessary.

A purchase of some badly needed clothing racks was discussed, one will be purchased to see if it meets our needs , also we will work on better cashier signs. No parking in the alley was discussed and our towing sign will be used again.

We will again be sending left over rummage to the Ft Belknap Service Center as well as some local outlets.

– Mary Tromly, Chair

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

Clem proposes to ask the Vestry to make the 2nd Myanmar teaching project, projected for November, a HSP project, and for teachers going to Myanmar to use HSP's 501c3 status to write off their travel expenses. Anita raised the issue of looking into the Jubilee Church Program. Once a parish becomes a "Jubilee Church," it might be eligible for grants from the National Episcopal Church to help defray the expenses of outreach work.

Clem also reported that churches and faith organizations are taking a position in support of refugees as a moral and humanitarian issue. The national church and Bishop Brookhart have taken positions and been visible on this. Clem and Lucia will organize an Advocacy Subcommittee of SCC to figure out a model for advocacy on the refugee issue and others. (Handout from Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations, DC)

Dorcie reported that the Hellgate Research Team is within one meeting of completing its research. Two contacts have been made with the school. And they also connected with St. Paul's and heard of Emanuel Lutheran's work with Sentinel. The power of the MIC relationship is great. The Parenting Place Team is also researching opportunities. By next fall, parish-wide involvement will be possible.

She also told us that the kickoff for April Child Abuse Awareness Month (April) is March 31 at the Courthouse from noon to 2. During the month, the Exchange Club will bring in Parenting Place speakers and organize Blue Sunday activities. There will also be two screenings of "Paper Tigers" at Sentinel and the Public Library, as well as a week of educational programs on the topic of "State of the Young Child." The primary events will be listed in the April *Paraclete*.

Dorcie also participated by phone on Feb. 23 in a Helena meeting of about 8 people that Bishop Carol Gallagher chaired. Educational resources are available at the diocesan level to local parishes on Native-American spirituality and forming relationships with indigenous peoples. Bishop Carol is organizing a March 25th task force meeting in Helena. Dorcie is looking for Native-American community members to participate, if anyone knows people who might be interested.

Bob reported that the February blood drive filled every slot and yielded 17 pints, with many parishioners helping. The Red Cross goal for us was 16. They want us to do another on Thursday,

July 6th but Bob can't coordinate it. So Anita offered to be in charge, and Dorcie will provide backup. Bob will be the coordinator again next February.

Jim Wiley and Carla reported that the initial meeting of the Subcommittee on a possible scholarship to be given to a nursing student at Aaniiih Nakoda Community College took place, including Whitney, Carla, Lucia, and Jim. Four students are enrolled in this new program, which is in its very first year. Jim wrote a letter to Bishop Carol about this project, asking whether it would fit into any diocesan program, if any other parishes would be interested, and if she'd be interested in participating. Jim later spoke to her on the phone, and she gave warm support to the possible project. They will discuss it further when she returns from her current travels. The project wouldn't be officially launched until after Terri returns and the SCC can get her support.

Mary Tromly applied for a \$150 Butterfly grant for gas money for a truck to take our extra rummage to the Fort Belknap Reservation. And the Youth Group applied for \$300 to raise money to provide diapers, formula and cash for Mountain Home Montana. Both applications were approved, with the stipulation that the Youth Group not use the money for raffle cash prizes, as they proposed.

Dorcie announced that Jesse said the "Youth Sleep Out" is confirmed for April 28.

– Carla Mettling, Social Concerns Chair

H) Spiritual Formation – Glenn Hladek/Phil Mediate (Gretchen Strohmaier, Chair)

Barbara Brown Taylor book study, *Learning to Walk in the Dark*. This Thursday evening group wrapped up in February, after 6 weeks. Margaret Watson facilitated the book study and about 11 people participated. One of the Sunday morning classes featured a short clip by Barbara Brown Taylor (an Episcopal priest) and there has been interest in pursuing more of her work. We'll look into offering a video course on her work in the future.

Spiritual Gifts & Discernment. This two-part evening workshop happened in February. A small group of five participated together, learning about their gifts and thinking together about discernment in their lives.

Women's Night Out. Lindsay Ludicello and I hosted another social gathering for women of the parish. We intentionally reached out to an intergenerational mix of women. Eight women gathered at Finn and Porter to share a drink and conversation.

The Warm Spirit Project. This group of five 4th and 5th grade girls met with an administrator from Watson's Children's Shelter to learn about their program and follow up on specific program needs. After this meeting each girl wrote down two reasons she thought it was important to support the work of Watson's. Last week the girls gathered at Kohl's and met with the managers, advocating for the kids that Watson's supports. The girls took turns telling why this work is so important and they asked Kohl's to work with them to make their grant money go as far as possible. (The girls had a \$300 butterfly grant). The Kohl's manager not only helped the girls shop and find clearance items that were on their supply list, but she also gave them an additional 30% off. The girls purchased \$1200 worth of supplies for the shelter with their \$300 grant. The girls plan to share their experience in adult worship in the coming weeks.

Centering Prayer. Willie Hoffer's monthly Centering Prayer group continues, with participants from both within our parish and from the wider Missoula community. The number of participants varies but it can be as many as 12.

Theological Reflections. This group continues to meet on a weekly basis, sharing life experiences and reflecting together through the lens of faith, building Christian community.

EFM. This group continues to meet weekly, on Thursday evenings, for education and mutual mentoring.

Advocacy Panel. In February we hosted an advocacy panel discussion. Bradley Wirth, a priest from the Flathead, came to present on the panel as did Pru Randall, Dorcie Dvarishkis and Jesse Jaeger. About 30 folks attended the panel. The panelists reviewed the Episcopal Church's history within the arena of advocacy. They shared about current filters the church uses to direct energy and focus. Dorcie shared about the MIC discernment process last spring. Jesse gave information about a model for Christian justice making. Subsequent to this panel a subcommittee from the social concerns group has formed to build a model for moving forward on advocacy within the church. Those ideas and suggestions will be shared with Terri and the vestry as they come to shape. (See attached report.)

– Gretchen Strohmaier, Director of Spiritual Formation

I) **Youth Ministry:**

In March, Youth Ministry held youth group, QUEST classes, celebrated the Confirmation of four youth and served at AniMeals with Youth Pack. In April, in addition to our regular youth groups and QUEST, we will be volunteering at the annual Clark Fork River Cleanup on Saturday, April 22. Also, we are teaming up with Empower Montana to host a Youth Sleep Out on Friday April 28. This will be an awareness raising event on teen homelessness in Missoula.

Thanks for your support of youth ministry at Holy Spirit!

– Lindsay Iudicello, Director of Youth Ministry

J) **Stewardship – Paul Polzin (Paul Polzin, Chair)**

No report.