

HOLY  
SPIRIT  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

# *Parish Profile*

MISSOULA, MONTANA





**A PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE**  
BCP p.832

○ God, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light rises up in darkness for the godly; Grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what You would have us to do, that the Spirit of Wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in Your light we may see light, and in Your straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*





# Our Spiritual Home

We cultivate, challenge and live our faith in Christ through commitment to each other and the world.

Our rich liturgy, music, and thoughtful teaching by both clergy and lay leaders ground us in the traditions of our faith and inspire us to enact God's love in the world.

We offer two Sunday services, Godly Play, and abundant opportunities for fellowship, service, formation, and community.

All are welcome in our community. We nurture engagement, believing the health of our parish is the responsibility of all of us.

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# Voices of Our Parish-Wide Survey

*What do we value most about our congregation?*

**H**oly Spirit is both our spiritual home and a launch point for service in the wider world.

We are a warm, inclusive, and socially active community, who come together in sacred communion with joyful celebration of tradition and innovation.

**The diverse voices of our congregation are organized here by three themes.**

**Welcoming, inclusive, and caring community that fosters fellowship and belonging**

“A welcoming togetherness that is felt the moment you walk in the door, whether it is church or a social event.”

“The sense of belonging and peace I feel when I attend church.”

“The way parishioners step up to help out whenever there is a need, with an optimistic and upbeat spirit.”

“The friendliness of the congregation, and the loving care Holy Spirit folks show each other.”

**Worship, liturgy, and tradition, which support spiritual growth**

“Spiritual home that feeds my faith in Jesus Christ.”

“We strive together to know God’s truth and live by its tenets day after day.”

“The liturgical music and sermons that leave you thinking for the week ahead.”

“Sermons, classes, lectures, programs are intellectually honest, theologically based, generally easily applied to how we live or aspire to live our lives.”

“Multiple worship services traditional liturgy and music offered with reverence, yet also engaging the contemporary world.”

**Embracing community in the world**

“We bring our ministries to follow the teachings of Jesus into the community to support marginalized people and to love our neighbors as ourselves.”

“Brings me great joy to be part of a community that values spiritual exploration, and seeks to improve our society through direct social and environmental activism.”

“Application of spiritual values to everyday life, with opportunities to grow in groups like the Social Concerns Committee, Creation Care Committee.”

“Our spiritual “home” that is progressively involved in the social concerns of our community.”

“Solidarity of the Holy Spirit Community in its social concerns activism, working together to benefit humanity including our Food Bank support and efforts for community housing such as Habitat for Humanity.”





*by the Numbers*

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123

Average Sunday  
Attendance

42

Average Weekly Views  
of Livestream Online

153

Pledging Households

347

Adult Communicants

36

Youth Communicants

67

New Members Last Year

321

Easter Attendance 2025

875

Average Weekly  
Outreach Beneficiaries

101

Number of Volunteers

## How We Care

At Holy Spirit, we care for one another and the world.

Our ministries are informed both by our Baptismal Covenant to respect the dignity of everyone and our appreciative gratitude for the magnificence and beauty of the world that surrounds us.

Lay leaders have initiated and sustained our ministries.



## Caring...

For each other

### Parish Community Gatherings:

Supper Club, Wholly Fun Events, Potlucks, Picnics, Musical Events, Nature Outings, Holiday Market & Rummage Sale

### Spiritual Formation:

Lenten Programming, Women's Retreat, Men's Prayer Breakfast, Centering Prayer, Book Studies, Inquirers Class and Confirmation, Women's Study Group, Compline, Camp Marshall

### Worship Ministry:

Choir, Altar Guild, Acolytes, Ushers, Eucharistic Lay Ministers, Worship Enrichment Committee, Godly Play, Visitation

### Parish Support:

Vestry, Memorial Foundation, Stewardship Committee

## For the community and the world

### Local Ministries:

Social Concerns Committee, Creation Care Committee, Missoula Food Bank Partnership, Emmaus Campus Ministry, Missoula Interfaith Collaborative, Community Educational Events, Hellgate High School Outreach

### Our Participation in National Organizations:

United Thank Offering, Habitat for Humanity, Red Cross Blood Drive, Pride Parade, Episcopal Relief and Development, Family Promise, Rio Grande Borderlands Ministry



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Habitat  
for Humanity®  
Missoula, Montana



Take heart. Take part.



# Our Strengths

## Involved:

### We're Doers

Our laity is deeply involved in the robust functioning of our parish. With a wide array of skills, competencies, and creativities our parish members lead our ministries, deliver homilies, run study groups, participate in visitation, organize community involvement and partner with the rector to sustain the organizational and financial health of the parish.

## Inclusive:

### We're Welcoming

Our community is a warm, affirming, and joy-filled community. We nurture all stages of life and work to foster healthy dialogue, caring support, and opportunities for faith exploration. We take our faith seriously, respecting and honoring each other as we journey together.

## Engaged:

### We're Learners

Our community has a passion for learning and heartfelt interest in spiritual growth. We lead with curiosity, asking questions and listening in turn. We understand that God's story is always unfolding and, as we listen, learn, and serve, we participate in that great story.





# Our Aspirations

We seek to be a hospitable, prayerful place of faith, joy, and stability while being curious, open and trusting in God's unfolding story.

Grounded in our tradition and experience, we intend to engage prayerfully in the challenges before us with curiosity and energy as we seek to pass the faith from generation to generation.

We want our new rector to collaborate with us enthusiastically, offering strong leadership, sound teaching, imagination, and genuine kindness in our shared faith journey.





# Rector SEARCH *for Holy Spirit*





# Welcoming a New Rector

## *Qualities we are seeking*

**S**piritual leadership, realized in heartfelt sermons, mentorship, and theological teaching, which is also relevant to our world and matters of social justice.

**A** kind and compassionate spirit, who brings these strengths to nurture our congregation and our work in the community.

**S**trategic vision with dynamic and energetic administrative skills that collaboratively empower our Vestry and Lay Ministry leaders, and sustain our financial health.



**T**he voices of our congregation provide a further map for our new rector and the gifts, talents, and experiences to help lead our community.

“A leader who has a keen eye for talent and for identifying and inspiring lay leaders to assume key areas of responsibility.”

“An individual who communicates hope and promise, and who motivates and challenges us to work for the common good.”

“A rector who balances spiritual and secular leadership, has an understanding of human emotional and spiritual needs, and thoughtfully integrates contemporary approaches to spirituality.”

“Humor, playfulness and a love of music, who brings enthusiasm for the word of God to the entire parish.”

“Diversity of life, first-hand experience, who energetically sustains and builds strong outreach beyond the Holy Spirit community.”

“A rector who has a broad world view. One who is progressive yet traditional in their approach to liturgy and music in the church, yet is appreciative of other theologies such as Native American.”

“Deep commitment to outreach in the wider community; this is what Jesus called us to do!”

“A priest who while having their own pastoral skills and familiarity with other spiritual traditions will encourage and support the spirit of compassion and involvement of us all.”



# Our History

*Holy Spirit Parish has a long and distinguished history in Missoula.*

In 1870, nineteen years before Montana became a state, Bishop Daniel Tuttle arrived in Missoula and held the town's first Protestant worship services. During the same trip he purchased a lot that became Holy Spirit Parish's first home.

With the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1883, Missoula experienced rapid growth. Holy Spirit Parish grew along with the town and served as the spiritual home of many of Missoula's prominent early citizens. In 1914 the Holy Spirit Vestry voted to purchase the current church site and the cornerstone of the new building, taken from the church's original foundation, was laid on August 22, 1915.

Over the last century, Holy Spirit Parish has evolved, as the needs of our Parish and our community changed. From its current location within easy walking distance of Missoula's downtown and the University of Montana, Holy Spirit Parish continues to grow, to enhance our facilities, and engage in social outreach throughout the Missoula community and beyond.

In the early 1930s a number of memorials enabled furniture upgrades and the installation of stained glass windows, designed by the famed glass maker Charles J. Connick, resulting in the beautiful church we see today.



Children's Choir  
Easter Sunday 1928



The Rev. Henry Gatley  
(standing) and Bishop Leigh  
Brewer (seated in car) visiting  
parishioners in the early  
1900s.



*History.*  
First Service held by a resident  
minister July 22 1877 at which time  
Rev. Geo. Stewart began his mission  
work in Missoula, County having  
under his charge Missoula, Stephentown,  
& Coeur d'Alene. These services were continued  
without interruption on the third Sunday  
in every month until November of 1884  
at which time it was thought advisable  
to devote more time to the work in  
Missoula which began  
the completion





# Our Mountain Home *Missoula*

**N**estled in the ancestral home of the Salish and Kalispel peoples, surrounded by seven wilderness areas, and at the confluence of three rivers, Missoula is an outdoor enthusiast's dream.

**R**ecently ranked 2nd in CNN's "Best Towns to Visit in 2025" and 9th in Outside Magazine's "The 16 Greatest Places to Live in America," Missoula is known for its blue-ribbon trout fishing, hiking, and spectacular natural beauty. Abundant recreational opportunities in surrounding state and national forests and nearby Glacier National Park and Yellowstone National Park complement a thriving intellectual atmosphere.

**M**issoula is a cultural center for the Northern Rockies. The community of approximately 80,000 is a regional destination for shopping and dining, with an abundance of restaurants, cafes, coffee houses and breweries.

**K**nown for its eclectic and progressive culture, Missoula hosts a wide array of arts and entertainment events including symphony, theatre, museums, film festivals, athletics, dance, and rodeo. In addition, the Wilma Theater, Kettlehouse Amphitheater, and the University of Montana are anchors of a vibrant and burgeoning music scene.

To learn more about Missoula, the University of Montana, and the State of Montana, please visit the links below.

[Destination Missoula](#)

[Video: There's This Place](#)

[Missoula Area Chamber of Commerce](#)

[University of Montana](#)

[City of Missoula](#)

[State of Montana](#)

[Visit Montana](#)



# Our Finances

## 2026 Holy Spirit Budget

### INCOME:

Annual Gifts / Pledges	\$420,000
Memorial Foundation / Bequests	54,585
Plate & Special Offerings	35,500
Sales & Volunteer Activities	19,000
Other Income	3,915
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TOTAL	\$533,000

### EXPENSES:

Staff Salaries & Related	\$283,758
Diocese & The Episcopal Church	91,945
Buildings & Grounds	77,037
General Operations*	51,310
Outreach**	16,360
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TOTAL	\$520,410

**NET SURPLUS** **\$12,590**

\* Office, Church Community, Formation, Travel, Discretionary, Etc.

\*\* In addition to budgeted social/community support, we have Alms Sundays 10 months per year, resulting in another 40% of our budgeted Outreach.

Holy Spirit is home to a glorious two-manual, mechanical-action instrument installed by Richard Bond Organ Builders in 1999.





# Our Diocese *and how to apply*

## The Episcopal Diocese of Montana

The Episcopal Diocese of Montana spans the entire state, the fourth largest state in the country by land mass. Our geographically diverse Diocese includes 32 congregations and missions in rural, small town, and city environments across the state.

The Episcopal Diocese of Montana supports local congregations through its Congregational Development Commission, which focuses on building resiliency and helping Parishes to thrive. The Diocese also operates Camp Marshall on Flathead Lake, a place for spiritual growth and fellowship.

## The Application Process

To apply for this position, please provide a cover letter, your resume, and your OTM personal ministry profile by February 13, 2026 to: [rectorsearch@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:rectorsearch@holyspiritmissoula.org).

Questions about this position should be directed to the Holy Spirit Search Committee at [rectorsearch@holyspiritmissoula.org](mailto:rectorsearch@holyspiritmissoula.org).







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WWW.  
**holyspirit**  
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.org

542-2167



The steadfast love  
of the Lord never  
ceases, his mercies  
never come to an  
end; they are  
new every  
morning; great is  
your faithfulness.

*LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23*



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[holyspiritmissoula.org](http://holyspiritmissoula.org)

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