

Week of December 4 - 11, 2016

Sunday, December 4th

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Installation of New Lay Leaders

9:30 am Christian Formation for all ages, parish hall
Choir Practice, choir room

10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Installation of New Lay Leaders

Monday, December 5th

5:00 pm Centering Prayer, nave

Wednesday, December 7th

6:30 pm Choir Practice, nave

Saturday, December 10th

8:00 am Men's Prayer Breakfast, parish hall

10:00 am Choir Practice, nave

Sunday, December 11th

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9:30 am Cookie Swap, parish hall
Choir Practice, choir room

10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

11:45 am Vestry Meeting, parish hall

3:30 pm Choir Practice, nave

5:00 pm Lessons & Carols, nave

Living in the Spirit

Dear Holy Spirit Family,

I want to give you peace of mind that we have started the paperwork for our interim. We don't have all of our i's dotted and our t's crossed quite yet- but it won't be long for it to be official. As stated before, our December services are covered. We will have 2 services Christmas Eve 5:30pm and 8:00pm. We will not have a service Christmas Day, this was decided prior to Mary Bea's leaving and the vestry voted to keep it that way. We will have Morning Prayer Services on January 1st and our interim will start January 8th. January 8th is also the day of our annual meeting so it will be a busy and exciting day! Once the diocese and the bishop sign all of our paperwork we will share the name of our interim rector.

In January we will form our search committee, I have a few people who have expressed interest in being a part of this committee- should you be interested please let me know at 205-410-3013. I have a flow chart from the diocese that explains the process of calling our new rector, if you would like to see that, please let me know and I will gladly send it to you.

We are at the later stages of our Stewardship campaign and are currently at 54 pledging units, pledging \$153,440. Last year we had 50 pledging units for \$162,000. If you have not done so, I ask that you prayerfully consider your pledge to Holy Spirit for this year and complete your pledge card. Doing so will allow Holy Spirit to flourish and remain strong.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me or anyone on the vestry with concerns or questions.
Mandy

Your Vestry:

Mandy G. – mmgolightly@gmail.com **Adam P.** – apower@valspar.com

Chaed A. - cag222@bellsouth.net **David F.** – drfaber2@gmail.com **Glenda J.** – gjones03@aol.com

Toni N. – toni.nash@aol.com **Doug S.** – dsmedley@calera.org **M.E. S.** – spencermedr@gmail.com

Erin W. – utgirl86@gmail.com

Weekly & Monthly Reminders

Centering Prayer	Dec 5th	5:30 pm	Nave
Choir Practice	Dec 7th	6:30 pm	Nave
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Dec 10th	8:00 am	Parish Hall
Vestry Meeting	Dec 11th	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Women's Circle	Dec 13th	6:30 pm	Nave
Healing Eucharist	Dec 14th	11:00 am	Nave
Bunco	Dec 15th	6:30 pm	Parish Hall
Pack for Beans & Rice	Dec 16th	9:00 am	Parish Hall
Beans & Rice	Dec 17th	9:00 am	Narthex
Holy Spirit 101	Dec 18th	11:45 am	Rector's Office

Save the Date

Sun, Dec 11th	Advent Lessons & Carols, 5:00 pm
Wed, Dec 14th	Healing Eucharist & Lunch (brown bag), 11:00 am
Sat, Dec 24th	Christmas Eve Services, 5:30pm and 8:00pm
Sun, Jan 8th	Annual Parish Meeting & Chili Cook-off, 11:45 am

Church Happenings

Centering Prayer, December 5th at 5:30pm

If you've been curious about how Centering Prayer might enrich your Spiritual Practice, now is the time to find out. Join us as we meet on the first Monday of each month to encourage each other in this ancient practice. We'll spend about 20 minutes sitting together in peaceful, reverent, healing silence, and we'll share our stories and tips for incorporating this practice into our daily lives.

Living Well Through Advent 2016:

Practicing Simplicity With All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind

Practicing simplicity is always challenging, but especially so this time of year. This book (available in the narthex and parish hall) is a timely resource to help us slow down and simplify the choices we make at a time when the world around us is often doing just the opposite. This guide provides a foundation for seeking a deeper experience of the Advent season, an experience that will help prepare us for the true meaning of Christmas. Pick up a copy while they last. We ask for a \$3 donation if you are able.

Men's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, December 10th at 8am

Join the men of Holy Spirit as they meet once a month on the second Saturday to gather for breakfast, prayer time, and fellowship. **All men are welcome and encouraged to come.** Cooking starts at 7:00 am with breakfast served at 8:00am. Please bring a few dollars to help cover the cost of breakfast. Be sure to wear your favorite hat! If you are interested in cooking breakfast or have other questions, contact Buzz Palmer, buzz.palmer@rawsonlp.com; Al Delchamps, aldel111@aol.com; or Doug Smedley, dsmedley@calera.org.

Cookie Swap – Sunday, Dec. 11th at 9:30am

The annual Christmas cookie swap will be Sunday, Dec. 11th at 9:30am. Each bag should contain at least 6 cookies and the recipe should be provided for each bag. Swap as many bags as you bring.

Angel Tree

Once again Holy Spirit is participating in the Angel Tree outreach ministry. We will have angels from around our area to help give a special Christmas to this year. Angels are available for pickup in the narthex. Sunday, December 18th is the last day to return gifts.

Advent Lessons & Carols, Sunday, December 11th at 5:00pm

Advent lessons and carols will be presented by the Holy Spirit choir directed by Peg Thompson. Lessons and Carols is a service of prayers, hymns, and scripture that began in England in the 1870's. This service will be held on December 11th at 5:00 pm in the nave of Holy Spirit. Come and experience the retelling of the promise of Christ's birth. Al Delchamps will lead this service.

Cards for Nursing Homes, Sunday, December 11th at 2:30pm

We will gather in the parish hall before Lessons & Carols to make handmade cards for local nursing home residents. All materials will be provided. RSVP to Toni, toni.nash@aol.com or Suzanna, shareyourstory@earthlink.net.

Sawyererville Beans & Rice Delivery

Holy Spirit is donating 40 bags of beans & rice to the Sawyererville Day Camp in Greensboro for their Christmas Party. We need help delivering these bags to them before December 18th. If you can assist, please contact Tara, tara@holyspirit-al.org.

Taste of the Spirit Cookbooks

Christmas is almost here - do you need stocking stuffers? gifts for coworkers or neighbors? We have the answer!! Get everyone on your list a Taste of the Spirit Cookbook! They will not be disappointed. Pick up them up in the parish hall or in the narthex.

Annual Parish Meeting & Chili Cook-Off, January 8th at 11:45am

Plan to attend our annual parish meeting. We will receive updates from our vestry and treasurer about the mission, ministry, and financial picture at Holy Spirit. We will also elect new vestry members for 2017. No one will go away hungry as the annual chili cook-off will take place. Please bring your famous chili and a copy of your recipe for sharing. We also need volunteers to bring drinks, crackers, bread, desserts or a favorite chili side dish. Best chili will be determined by most votes counted according to money in cup so bring change and folding money to make your vote count! *Perfect Potluck sign up coming soon!*

Cursillo 4th sunDAY!, January 22nd

All past Cursillistas are invited to reunion together every 4th Sunday of the month. Our first get together will be January 22nd. More details coming soon. *DeColores!*

Please wear your nametag each Sunday.

Wearing your nametag is very helpful for visiting priests during this transition.

If you need a nametag, please write your name on the sheet provided.

Diocesan/Local Offerings

There are so many wonderful events happening throughout our Diocese. Be sure to visit the diocesan website, www.dioala.org, for details. Check out the bulletin board in the parish hall for a few highlights.

Christmas Conference at Camp McDowell, December 28-30 – Any 9th – 12th graders

Let There Be Light! It's time to register for Christmas Conference 2016! Registration for this event opened on October 1 and there is still plenty of space for boys and only a few spots left for girls. Please register to join us today! The event cost is \$115, with scholarship assistance available. Registration is open till space is full or no later than December 19. Visit dioala.org to register.

Save the Date...Episcopal Place 12th Annual Gumbo Gala – April 22nd at Sloss Furnaces

Financial Update

Contributions

Thank you for your generous support of our parish. Below is a summary of the contributions received during the week ending on Sunday, November 27, 2016.

Pledged	\$2,242.00
Unpledged	\$ 300.00
Bethany Village	\$ 50.00
Flowers	\$ 72.00
Outreach	\$ 100.27
Parish Life	\$ 38.00
Turkey purchases.....	\$ 390.00
Total Contributions	\$3,192.27

Please pray for...

Bishops and Clergy: Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop ECUSA; Kee Sloan, Alabama Bishop; Alison Carmody, Priest Affiliate; Stan Wright, Priest Affiliate

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: Our companion dioceses of Alaska & the Virgin Islands & their bishops Mark & Ambrose; Diocesan Dept of Finance; Retired clergy; Deceased clergy, their widows & children; Cathedral Church of the Advent, Birmingham

Ministries and Programs within The Church of the Holy Spirit: Children's Christian Formation, EYC, Adult Education, Diocesan Connections

For Nation and Local Community: Barack Obama, President; Donald Trump, President-Elect; Robert Bentley, Governor; Communities of Calera, Alabaster, Helena, Maylene, & Pelham

For all people everywhere, especially: those impacted by the fires in Gatlinburg.

Healing & Guidance for members, relatives and friends of Holy Spirit: Doris & Richard Smith (Victoria Knierim); Carl Raymond (Allyson Agee); Jo Cochran (Judy Dykes); Roxie & Stan Wright; Debra Dewees (Glenda Jones); Francie Gardner; Bud Montgomery (Carol Smedley); Dorothy Powell; Kim Sloan (Nancy Musgrove & Katy Brooks); Karen Marshall (Allyson Agee); Barbara Carroll (Harriet & Bill Meeks); Jaxson (Mary Hodgetts); Jim Mankoski (Allyson Agee); Suzanna, Jody, Tina, Barbara, and Ryan Rawlins; Dan Pose; Joanne; Aubrie Kate Atkinson; Hugh Talbert; Shannon Bogert & family (Amanda Wilbanks)

For those serving in the armed services: Hall Graham (Julia Jackson), Mark McKay (Gladys McKay)

For all who have died, may light perpetual shine upon them.

Upcoming Birthdays: Mary Avritt (12/5), Madison Sabol (12/5), Mike Kelley (12/7), Christy Crumpton (12/12), Sharon Greer (12/15), Karla Clem (12/17), Glenda Jones (12/18)

Upcoming Anniversaries: Pam & Ryan Leonard (12/12)

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

Tara's Office Hours: Tues, Wed, & Thurs – 9:00am to 2:00pm

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