

Week of December 11 - 18, 2016

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

Tuesday, December 13th

6:00 pm Women's Circle, nave

Wednesday, December 14th

11:00 am Healing Eucharist
7:00 pm Choir Practice, nave

Thursday, December 15th

6:30 pm Bunco, parish hall

Friday, December 16th

9:00 am Pack for Beans & Rice, parish hall

Saturday, December 17th

9:00 am Beans & Rice Distribution, narthex

Sunday, December 18th

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:30 am Christian Formation for all ages, parish hall
Choir Practice, choir room
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:45 am Holy Spirit 101, rector's office

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 Golightly
mngolightly@gmail.com

Weekly & Monthly Reminders

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
Choir Practice	Dec 14th	6:30 pm	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
Centering Prayer	Jan 2nd	5:30 pm	Nave
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Jan 14th	8:00 am	Parish Hall

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

Christmas Flower Donations

A signup sheet for Christmas flowers is located in the narthex. You may honor a loved with your \$30 donation and it will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

Advent Lessons & Carols, Sunday, TONIGHT 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 is TONIGHT 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. Following the service, light refreshments will be provided in the narthex by the choir.

Cards for Nursing Homes, Sunday, TODAY 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.

Healing Eucharist, Wednesday, December 14th at 11:00 am

In need of a mid-week boost? Come join us for a quiet, service of healing December 14th at 11:00 am. Those who wish to stay are welcome to stay for a brown bag lunch immediately following the service.

Bunco, December 15th at 6:30pm

Do you want to have a great meal, fellowship and fun? How about joining us for Bunco! We play Bunco on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Cost is \$5 and all money goes to the Beans and Rice ministry. (Adults only please-no childcare is provided for Bunco)

Holy Spirit 101 – December 18th at 11:45am

Come learn more about Holy Spirit with vestry member, M.E. Spencer Sunday, December 18th after the 10:30 service. This is a great opportunity for visitors (but all are welcome) to gather once a month in the rector's office with refreshments and hear about the church and our offerings.

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.

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.

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!*

2016 Pledges

We know this is a busy hectic time for all of our families but please don't forget to get your 2016 pledges in this month.

Thank you for wearing 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, December 4, 2016.

Pledged	\$5,233.32
Unpledged	\$ 560.68
Flowers	\$ 245.00
Parish Life	\$ 159.22
Total Contributions	\$6,198.22

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; Episcopal Church Women; University of the South, Sewanee, TN; Our Bishop, Kee Sloan

Ministries and Programs within The Church of the Holy Spirit: Vestry, Beans & Rice, Love in Action (Outreach), Prayer Shawl Ministry

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); **Dan** Poset; **Joanne; Shannon** Bogert & family (Amanda Wilbanks), **Nila** Whetsell, **Roy** Wolfe, **Buzz** Palmer, **Isabelle** Jackson

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

For all who have died, especially **Hugh** Talbert, may light perpetual shine upon them.

Upcoming Birthdays: Christy Crumpton (12/12), Sharon Greer (12/15), Karla Clem (12/17), Glenda Jones (12/18), Debra Dickey (12/20), Nicholas Matthews (12/20), Logan Power (12/20), Suzanna Rawlins (12/23), Steve Smith (12/24)

Upcoming Anniversaries: Pam & Ryan Leonard (12/12), Jean & John Williams (12/20)

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

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