

*Week of February 12 - 19, 2017*

**Sunday, February 12th**

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
9:30 am Christian Formation for all ages, parish hall  
Choir Practice, nave  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
11:45 am Vestry Meeting, parish hall  
Joyous Communion (grades 3rd – 6th), nave

**Wednesday, February 15th**

7:00 pm Choir Practice, choir room

**Thursday, February 16th**

6:30 pm Bunco, parish hall

**Friday, February 17th**

9:00 am Beans & Rice packing, parish hall

**Saturday, February 18th**

9:00 am Beans & Rice distribution, narthex

**Sunday, February 19th**

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

*Notes from the Interim Rector*

**Cahaba Valley Health Care Screening:** When I began learning about this parish, I was delighted to find that Church of the Holy Spirit is a screening site for Cahaba Valley Health Care (CVHC). What a wonderful gift it is to the community to make the church facilities available so that our underserved neighbors have access to health services. The beauty of that gift was underscored that Sunday by 18 adult and youth parishioners who volunteered to welcome our guests and to support the work of CVHC. Many thanks to everyone at Holy Spirit for helping this to be a place of hospitality and care. This is just one way that Holy Spirit strives to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself."

**Praying for the Vestry:** The duties and responsibilities of a vestry are always important as its members work to take care of parish finances and church facilities. Those responsibilities are heightened when it comes time to call a new rector. With that in mind, I invite you to keep the vestry in your prayers. You can find *A Prayer for Our Vestry* in the narthex and in the entrance to the parish hall. I invite you to pick up one of these and pray for the vestry often.

**A Prayer for Discernment:** Speaking of prayers, here is one that I have used often over the past 17 years.

*Lord, Let me know clearly the work which you are calling me to do in life. And grant me every grace I need to answer your call with courage and love and lasting dedication to your will. Amen.*

The Rev. Bill Blackerby, Interim Rector

*Living  
in the  
Spirit*

## Weekly & Monthly Reminders

Vestry Meeting	Feb 12th	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Choir Practice	Feb 15th	7:00 pm	Choir Room
Bunco	Feb 16th	6:30 pm	Parish Hall
Pack for Beans & Rice	Feb 17th	9:00 am	Parish Hall
Beans & Rice	Feb 18th	9:00 am	Narthex
Holy Spirit 101	Feb 19th	11:45 am	Rector's Office
Women's Circle	Feb 21st	6:30 pm	Nave
Centering Prayer	Mar 7th	5:00 pm	Nave
Healing Eucharist	Mar 8th	11:00 am	Nave
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Mar 11th	8:00 am	Parish Hall

## Save the Date

Feb 17th-18th	186th Diocesan Convention, Birmingham
Tues, Feb 28th	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 6:30 pm
Wed, Mar 1st	Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00 pm
Wed, Mar 15th	Lent Soup & Program with Susanna Whitsett, 6:30 pm
Wed, Mar 22nd	Lent Soup & Program with Rob Morpeth, 6:30 pm
Thurs, Apr 13th	Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 pm
Fri, Apr 14th	Good Friday Service & Stations of the Cross, 7:00 pm
Sat, Apr 15th	Easter Vigil, 7:00 pm
Sun, Apr 16th	Easter Sunday

## Church Happenings

### **Cookies for Beans & Rice**

As part of our Beans & Rice Ministry, we like to add a small bag of cookies (homemade cookies, store-bought cookies, brownies, etc.) to the bag of food staples that we provide each month to those in need. This treat is greatly appreciated. Please consider signing up (by yourself or with a friend) to provide cookies for one of the Rice & Beans Ministry Saturdays during the year. Sign up and get all the details at: <http://holyspirit-al.org/volunteer-spot/>

### **Holy Spirit 101 – February 19th at 11:45am**

Come learn more about Holy Spirit with M.E. Spencer Sunday, February 19th 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.

### **Cursillo 4th sunDAY!, February 26th at 11:45 am**

All past Cursillistas are invited to reunion together every 4th Sunday of the month. Our first get together will be February 26th. Feel free to bring a brown bag lunch.

What is Cursillo? Cursillo is an opportunity to grow in faith and in spirituality. Cursillo in the Diocese of Alabama begins with a three-day weekend at Camp McDowell. During these three days, lay people and clergy share their experiences and perspective on a variety of topics related to the love of God, the Christian life, and Christian community. Through Cursillo we seek a deeper understanding of the teachings of Jesus and how we can serve Him. We work together to share God's love and encourage each other to persevere in carrying out our Baptismal vows. Cursillo *starts* with a three day weekend, but the best is yet to come! If you are interested in attending, contact Kim Sorensen, [ksorensen@jackhenry.com](mailto:ksorensen@jackhenry.com), for more information.

Upcoming 2017 Cursillo Weekends:

\* March 9th – 12th \* April 6th – 9th \* June 8th – 11th \* Sept 7th – 10th \* Oct 5th – 8th

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 28th at 6:30 pm, parish hall**

Shrove Tuesday is the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday which is the first day of Lent. It's a day of penitence, to clean the soul, and a day of celebration as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. But there's more to Shrove Tuesday than pigging out on pancakes or taking part in a public pancake race. The pancakes themselves are part of an ancient custom with deeply religious roots.

Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the ritual of shiving that Christians used to undergo in the past. In shiving, a person confesses his or her sins and receives absolution for them. When a person receives absolution for his or her sins, the sins are forgiven and the person released from the guilt and pain that the sins have caused. This tradition is very old. Over 1000 years ago a monk wrote in the Anglo-Saxon Ecclesiastical Institutes: "In the week immediately before Lent everyone shall go to his confessor and confess his deeds and the confessor shall so shive him."

Shrove Tuesday is a day of celebration as well as penitence, because it's the last day before Lent. Lent is a time of abstinence, of giving things up. So Shrove Tuesday is the last chance to indulge yourself, and to use up the foods that aren't allowed in Lent. Giving up foods: but not wasting them. In the old days there were many foods that observant Christians would not eat during Lent: foods such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. So that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the shiving Tuesday, and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going bad. The need to eat up the fats gave rise to the French name Mardi Gras; meaning fat Tuesday. Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a dish that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house with just the addition of flour.

*\*\*From ThisIsChurch.org*

### **Ash Wednesday Service, March 1st at 7:00 pm, nave**

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent for Western Christian churches. It's a day of penitence to clean the soul before the Lenten fast. Roman Catholic, Anglican, and some other churches hold special services at which worshippers are marked with ashes as a symbol of death, and sorrow for sin.

Ash Wednesday service draws on the ancient Biblical traditions of covering one's head with ashes, wearing sackcloth, and fasting.

In Ash Wednesday services churchgoers are marked on the forehead with a cross of ashes as a sign of penitence and mortality. .

*God our Father, you create us from the dust of the earth.*

*Grant that these ashes may be for us a sign of our penitence, and a symbol of our mortality.*

The minister or priest marks each worshipper on the forehead, and says remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return, or a similar phrase based on God's sentence on Adam in Genesis 3:19.

The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made by burning the palm crosses that were blessed on the previous Palm Sunday. The ash is sometimes mixed with anointing oil, which makes sure that the ashes make a good mark. The use of anointing oil also reminds the churchgoer of God's blessings and of the anointing that took place at their baptism.

*\*\*From ThisIsChurch.org*

## *Discernment Committee*

Our discernment committee includes...

*Keri Ann Atkinson*

*Lorraine Divers*

*Tessa Nash*

*Valerie Autrey*

*Glenda Jones, chairperson*

*Suzanna Rawlins*

*Juli Bowlin*

*Chip Maxwell*

*Ted Vodde*

Thank you to this amazing group for volunteering to help find our next rector. Please feel free to share your thoughts and opinions with them as they begin our search. They will update the congregation throughout this process.

*Stay connected with events around the diocese at [dioala.org](http://dioala.org)*

## *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, February 5, 2017.

Pledged .....	\$4,465.00
Unpledged .....	\$ 134.46
Beans and Rice .....	\$ 21.54
Flowers .....	\$ 35.00
Boston Butt Purchases .....	\$1,410.00
Boston Butt Donations .....	\$ 50.00
Total Contributions .....	\$6,116.00

*Please pray for...*

**Bishops and Clergy:** Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; **Michael** Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop ECUSA; **Kee** Sloan, Alabama Bishop; **Bill** Blackerby, Interim Rector; **Stan** Wright, Priest Affiliate

**Diocesan Prayer Cycle:** Our companion dioceses of Alaska & the Virgin Islands & their bishops Mark & Ambrose; Diocesan Convention; The Abbey, Birmingham

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

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

**For all people everywhere, especially:** those living in Syria and all war-torn countries

**Healing & Guidance for members, relatives and friends of Holy Spirit:** **Richard** Smith (Victoria Knierim); **Carl** Raymond (Allyson Agee); **Jo** Cochran (Judy Dykes); **Roxie & Stan** Wright; **Debra** Dewees (Glenda Jones); **Bud** Montgomery, **Henry** (Carol Smedley); **Kim & Luke** Sloan, **Nila** Whetsell, **Roy** Wolfe, **David, Obie, Brian, Bill & Debbie** (Katy Brooks); **Karen** Marshall (Allyson Agee); **Barbara** Carroll (Harriet & Bill Meeks); **Jaxson** (Mary Hodgetts); **Jim** Mankoski (Allyson Agee); **Dan** Poset; **Shannon** Bogert & family (Amanda Wilbanks); **Buzz** Palmer; **Isabelle** Jackson; **Hal** Skalka; **Will** Graham; **Lou** Malone (Sharon Poset); **Zara** Golightly (Mandy Golightly); **Julia** Jackson; **Charlotte** Callough (M.E. Spencer); **Jimmy** Lee (Rodney Dilbeck); **Betty** Marek

**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:** Eileen Dilbeck (2/12), Forrest Heacock (2/14), Robbie McCoy (2/17), Keri Ann Atkinson (2/18), Pam Leonard (2/20), R.J. Dilbeck (2/20), Baylee Marek (2/21), Richard Wall (2/23), Ryan Stephens (2/23), Mary Joe Logan (2/24), Jackie Dunlap (2/25)

### ***The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit***

**The Rev. Bill Blackerby, Interim Rector**

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Tara's Office Hours: Tues, Wed, & Thurs – 9:00am to 1:00pm

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