

Week of April 2 - 9, 2017

Sunday, April 2nd

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:30 am The Best Way to Pray, Adult Forum, parish hall
Christian Formation for all ages, parish hall
Choir Practice, nave
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Wednesday, April 5th

7:00 pm Choir Practice, choir room

Saturday, April 8th

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

Sunday, April 9th, Palm Sunday

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:30 am The Best Way to Pray, Adult Forum, parish hall
Christian Formation for all ages, parish hall
Choir Practice, nave
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11:45 am Vestry Meeting, parish hall

*Living
in the
Spirit*

Notes from the Interim Rector: Beans & Rice

A ministry that I've come to appreciate and love is Beans & Rice. Prior to serving as interim rector for Grace Church, Cullman, I'd heard about this ministry but had never experienced it firsthand. While I was in Cullman, Deacon Jerry Jacob got a Beans & Rice ministry up and running. It was then that I began to see the difference that Beans & Rice makes for our neighbors who could use a little help with groceries each month. I also began to learn that this particular ministry is a wonderful way for everyone in the parish to participate in serving our neighbors. These two lessons were underscored for me during my time as interim rector for St. Catherine's, Chelsea. Many folks at this parish made it a monthly practice to bring an extra box, can, or package of whatever they were buying for their families while shopping. A few brought something each week! This meant that even if a person or family couldn't be there to help distribute groceries, they were still active participants in this important ministry.

I am delighted that Church of the Holy Spirit has a Beans & Rice ministry. If you are participating already, thank you! If you're not, let me encourage you to bring a grocery item weekly or monthly to help stock the pantry or to help pack the grocery bags on a Friday or to volunteer to distribute the bags on a Saturday or to do all 3! Whatever you do, know that it is appreciated by many people both outside and inside the church walls. The next packing Friday is April 14 and distribution April 15.

If you need a little guidance about what to bring for next month, here is note from Mike Ghareeb about **Beans & Rice's Needs for April**: "Our pantry for Beans & Rice is currently low on some of our staples. We distribute around 30 bags of food along with the beans and rice every third Saturday of the month. Please consider donating:

15 oz canned goods with protein	spaghetti sauce
canned tomatoes	canned corn
canned green beans	breakfast cereal

Weekly & Monthly Reminders

Choir Practice	Apr 5th	7:30 pm	Choir Room
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Apr 8th	8:00 am	Parish Hall
Vestry Meeting	Apr 9th	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Women's Circle	Apr 11th	6:30 pm	Nave
Pack for Beans & Rice	Apr 14th	9:00 am	Parish Hall
Beans & Rice	Apr 15th	9:00 am	Narthex
Bunco	Apr 20th	6:30 pm	Parish Hall
Cursillo Reunion	Apr 23rd	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Healing Eucharist	May 10th	11:00 am	Nave
Holy Spirit 101	May 21st	11:45 am	Rector's Office

Save the Date

Sun, Apr 9th	Palm Sunday, 8:30 am & 10:30 am
Thurs, Apr 13th	Maundy Thursday Service & Foot Washing, 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, 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Church Happenings

Bridal Tea for Holly Roberts, Today at 2:00 pm

Please join us today at 2:00 pm in the parish hall to honor a very special bride-to-be, Holly Roberts. All are welcome!

Men's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, April 8th at 8:00 am

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!

Easter Egg Hunt, April 16 at 11:45 am

Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:30 service on Easter Sunday. We will have hundreds of eggs and two areas for the younger and older children. If you can donate some non-chocolate, individually wrapped candy there will be a donation basket in the parish hall. Donation deadline is 4-9-17. If you have questions contact Erin Washam, utgirl86@gmail.com



Easter Flower Donations

Help brighten up the nave on Easter Sunday and honor your loved ones by donating Easter flowers. After Easter Sunday many of the flowers will be planted around the church. Sign up in the narthex. Contact Tara with any questions, tara@holyspirit-al.org

Co-Ed Softball League

Let's play ball!!! Are you interested in joining a Holy Spirit co-ed softball team? Games are played May through the beginning of July. We need at least 10 to 12 players to make a team. Please contact Mandy Curry, curry81704@gmail.com, if you are interested.

Member Directory

Our member directory can be accessed anytime at www.holyspirit-al.org/directory with the password: HSFfamily. Please check your family's listing to confirm we have all correct and updated information for you. Please contact Tara, tara@holyspirit-al.org with any needed changes. We have a few hardcopies available in the narthex if you prefer.

Volunteer Ministry Sign-up

You can now sign up to volunteer for any of our ministries at any time! In the narthex we have a notebook with a sign up page for each ministry with the ministry leader's name and contact information. If interested in serving Holy Spirit in a particular ministry please sign up so we can get you connected. Thank you everyone for your continuing support of Holy Spirit!!

Financial Fitness Program, Mondays, May 1st – June 12th at 6:30 pm, parish hall

Course will cover developing budgeting skills, basic financial management skills and helping attendees understand the financial playing field. This class will be taught in English with plans to offer follow up sessions in both English and Spanish. Registration forms are in the Narthex. Cost is \$10 per workbook. Contact Suzanna Rawlins with any questions, sr6395@att.com.

2017 Cursillo

Interested in attending 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 interested contact Kim Sorensen, ksorensen@jackhenry.com

Upcoming 2017 Cursillo Weekends:

* June 8th – 11th (*deadline May 2nd*) * Sept 7th – 10th * Oct 5th – 8th

Diocesan Events

Episcopal Place 12th Annual Gumbo Gala, April 22nd 11am – 2pm, Sloss Furnaces

Join us for the 12th Annual Gumbo Gala with proceeds benefitting Episcopal Place! Gumbo Gala is now one of the largest gumbo cook-offs in the southeast. Live music, art vendors, Pogo's Playground, the Muskrat Art Ramble featuring local artists, food trucks, and a beautiful setting make Gumbo Gala a great time for the entire family. For more info and to buy tickets: <http://gumbogala.swellgives.com/>

2017 Ultimate Parish Retreat, May 5-7, Camp McDowell

Formerly known as *Small Parish Weekend*. You are invited to come together and enjoy the group activities that larger parishes experience each year and to worship and play with others throughout the diocese. This year the retreat is planned for May 5-7, an ideal weekend at camp when the wild magnolias and other native plants are in bloom and the weather is usually ideal. Activities are being planned and will be designed specifically for those who attend. The theme will be centered around the Stewardship of Creation and there will be something for everyone. Contact Tara, tara@holyspirit-al.org, for pricing and more information.

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, March 26, 2017.

Pledged.....	\$1,855.00
Unpledged	\$ 36.00
Beans and Rice.....	\$ 75.81
Parish Life	\$ 9.27
Outreach (Cursillo)	\$ 20.71
Honduras Mission Trip	\$ 420.00
Total Contributions	\$2,416.79

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; Dept of Parish Development & Evangelism; Habitat for Humanity and all programs for the promotion of safe and affordable housing; Interfaith Hospitality Network

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

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 Knerim);

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); Will Graham; Lou Malone (Sharon Poset); Charlotte Callough (M.E. Spencer); Jimmy Lee (Rodney Dilbeck); Betty Marek; Greg, Tyler, Derek, & Josh Hussey; Val Autrey; J.T. Peterson; Barb Diehl (Jim Hamilton); Hailey; Dawn Mango, John Kimbrough, Mallory Carroll (Harriet & Bill Meeks); Gladys McKay; Paul Clausmeyer

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: Celia Heatherly (4/5), Faustina Muruako (4/11), Harriet Meeks (4/11), Julio Campos (4/12), Ashley Hughes (4/12), Michelle Power (4/13), Gary Elliott (4/14)

Upcoming Anniversaries: Bethann & Julio Campos (4/2), Tara & Jason Portney (4/9), Tawny & Mike Stephens (4/10)

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit

The Rev. Bill Blackerby, Interim Rector

wsblackerby@gmail.com ♦ 205-837-9861

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

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Church Directory – www.holyspirit-al.org/directory password: HSFamily