

Week of July 23 - 30, 2017

Sunday, July 23rd

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9:30 am Coffee Hour, parish hall

10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Sunday, July 30th

8:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

9:30 am Coffee Hour, parish hall

10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Living in the Spirit

Catch the Spirit at Holy Spirit from Father Bill Blackerby, Interim Rector

It has been a great summer for the people of The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit! We had an amazingly wonderful Vacation Bible School led by Julia Jackson that involved children and adults in exploring their faith through C.S. Lewis' marvelous story *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. A dozen of us took lots of food prepared by many parishioners to Greensboro, Hale County and served lunch to over 100 Sawyerville Day Camp youth and adult staff. To top off our time together, the Holy Spirit contingent went to Pie Lab, worth a trip in itself. In late May, members of the Men's Breakfast cleaned up church property in the woods behind the parish hall. Last month, Carol and Doug Smedley spent a week in Honduras on mission trip serving the children at El Hogar School, taking with them many generous donations for the children from our parishioners. Seven Holy Spirit families bought back to school clothes for seven local students. Lots of church volunteers served children lunch 5 days a week at Thompson Middle School for the month of June. Eight of our younger members have spent or will spend time at Camp McDowell. Emma Nash served on staff for Special Session. Abby Cowan, Reagan Nash, Aubrie Kate Atkinson, Bella Brooks, and Tessa Nash have been to camp sessions for their respective grades. Stella Atkinson and her mom, Keri Ann, are headed to Camp later this summer as is Dylan Curry, who will attend Bethany's Kids. Tessa is headed to Camp Lee to serve on staff for Foothills Day Camp, which is sponsored by Grace Episcopal in Anniston. At the Sunday Eucharist, we've heard beautiful solos from choir members while the choir is on summer hiatus. Speaking of Eucharists, the monthly Healing Eucharist has grown from 2 or 3 faithful attendees to 13 in June and 15 this month. Five women of the church are in the discernment process to become members of the parish's Daughters of the King chapter. However, it's not just about the summer. Committees are forming and work is being done to prepare for this year's version of *Taste of the Spirit*, which is going to be a blast. Who says summer is a time when things slow down?

As I look back over this quick, incomplete review of summer life at Holy Spirit, what jumps out is our parish's focus on children and youth, our own and other people's. That is an important sign of a healthy parish church. We have a lot for which be thankful and numerous opportunities now and in the future to nurture our faith and to share it with others. We can proclaim with enthusiasm and conviction, "Catch the Spirit at Holy Spirit!" So invite your friends and neighbors to join us often for worship, fellowship, and service where they too can "Catch the Spirit."

Weekly & Monthly Reminders

Healing Eucharist	Aug 9th	11:00 am	Nave
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Aug 12th	8:00 am	Parish Hall
Vestry Meeting	Aug 13th	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Bunco	Aug 17th	6:30 pm	Parish Hall
Pack for Beans & Rice	Aug 18th	9:00 am	Parish Hall
Beans & Rice	Aug 19th	9:00 am	Narthex

Taste of the Spirit - Committee Help Needed

We have set a new date for TOTS, our annual fundraiser. It will be the evening of **Oct. 28, 2017!** More details to follow, but first we need COMMITTEES! (and don't worry about football, both Alabama and Auburn are off this day!) Sign up at: <http://holyspirit-al.org/volunteer-spot> or in the Narthex

Taste of the Spirit- Silent Auction Items Needed

We need YOUR help! We are taking silent auction items NOW for our biggest fundraiser of the year. Please think of anything you would personally bid on at an auction. We are taking NEW items valued at \$25.00 or more. We are also looking for big ticket items for our LIVE auction portion. Do you perhaps have a condo you are able to share? Or are you connected for tickets to a special event? If you are unsure of a specific item, but want to donate, contact Allyson Agee, allyagee@bellsouth.net or 205-283-7732 for more information. **ITEMS ARE NEEDED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 24th.**

Examples:

Salon Services	Restaurant Gift Certificates
Hotel Accommodations	Hand Crafted Items
Entertainment/ Special Events	Photography Services
Anything Unique (example: last year Space Camp)	

Church Happenings

Back to School Blessing, Sunday, August 6th

All students and education staff are invited to bring their backpacks, briefcases, or tote bags to church for a special blessing to begin the new school year surrounded in prayer.

Aluminum Can Collection

Please remember that we collect aluminum cans to recycle to raise funds for our Beans & Rice Ministry. Drop off your cans on the back porch of the parish hall.

Holy Spirit Calendar

Want to know what's going on at Holy Spirit? Please note that all activities are now available for viewing on our Holy Spirit calendar on our website. Direct link is here: <http://holyspirit-al.org/events/>. Save it as a favorite on your computer.



Back to School Supply Drive

It's time for our annual school supply drive! Help out our local schools by donating items from the list below and leave in the narthex by **July 30th!** Questions? Contact Tara Portney

Composition Notebooks
Fiskars Scissors
Large Pink Erasers
Headphones
Clorox Wipes
White Cardstock
Colored Pencils

Crayola Crayons (24 ct)
Glue Sticks
Plastic Folders
Kleenex
Wet Wipes
White Copy Paper
Construction Paper
Ziplock Bags (quart & gallon)

Dry Erase Markers (blk)
#2 Pencils (sharpened)
Crayola Markers
Hand Sanitizer
Paper Towels
Highlighters
Backpacks

Diocesan Events

Jonathan Daniels' Pilgrimage, Saturday, August 12th, Hayneville

This year's annual observance of Jonathan Daniels and the Martyrs of Alabama is Saturday, August 12th in Hayneville, AL. The Pilgrimage begins at 11 am in the Hayneville Courthouse Square. Visit http://dioala.org/digital_faith/events/3174268 for more information. There is no cost to participate but space is limited. We encourage you to pre-register online at <https://goo.gl/uQ5esQ>.

The Labyrinth as a Spiritual Tool workshop, Sept 15-17, 2017

The Alabama Folk School at Camp McDowell (Instructor: Mary Ellen Calhoun)--This class will cover the rich history of labyrinths. We will discuss guidelines for walking and ways to use labyrinths. There will be ample time to walk Camp McDowell's labyrinth, journal and share your feelings. A hand-held clay finger labyrinth will be made, and we will discuss the care of the labyrinth at Camp McDowell. Register at www.alfolkschool.com.

Happening #71, November 3rd – 5th, St. Stephen's Birmingham

Open to youth in grades 10 – 12!! During the three-day weekend, the participants spend time seriously considering the person and teaching of Jesus Christ in a relaxed, fun, informal and loving atmosphere. They are provided with opportunities to share, discuss, learn and live with fellow Christians in an environment of acceptance and understanding. **HAPPENING** is not a new form of spirituality, nor is it just another weekend retreat. It is a personal encounter with the living Christ as expressed in the traditions of the Episcopal Church. Hopefully, those who attend a Happening will join those who have gone before them in their desire to serve the Church, to continue in their commitment to Christ and to look for further opportunities to share with others what they have lived and learned. Contact Tara Portney if you have any questions or visit <http://happeninginal.weebly.com/> for more information and registration.

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, July 16, 2017.

Pledged.....	\$1,580.00
Unpledged	\$ 185.00
Beans and Rice.....	\$ 1.00
Flowers.....	\$ 60.00
Honduras Mission Trip.....	\$ 94.39
Outreach—school supplies	\$ 61.04
Total Contributions	\$1,981.43

Avg Sunday Attendance

	Apr	May	Jun
8:30am	16	15	10
10:30am	78	62	68
Total	93	77	78

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; Alabama Episcopal Foundation Board of Directors; Diocesan Department of Architecture

Ministries and Programs within The Church of the Holy Spirit: Parish Life, Choir, Altar Guild, Invite•Welcome•Connect, Stewardship

For Nation and Local Community: Donald Trump, President; Kay Ivey, 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); 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); Dan Poset; 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); Dawn Mango (Harriet & Bill Meeks); Gladys McKay; Paul Clausmeyer; Ted Smith (Sally Jorgenson); Nan Vodde; Delauney Family (Carrie May); Braden, Doug, Mt. Zion Church family; Harriet & Bill Meeks; Catherine Frison, William Davis, Barbara Banks (Robbie McCoy); Bill Sorensen; Katy Brooks

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: Nicholas Agee (7/29), Paula Hughes (8/1), Stan Wright (8/4), Mike Ghareeb (8/5)

Upcoming Anniversaries: Harriet and Bill Meeks (7/26)

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 – 9:30am to 1:00pm

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