

Week of September 18 - 25, 2016

Sunday, September 18th

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

Monday, September 19th

5:30 pm Centering Prayer, nave
6:30 pm Wisdom's Way, parish hall

Wednesday, September 21st

7:00 pm Choir Practice, nave

Saturday, September 24th

7:30 am Habitat Build

Sunday, September 25th

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 Daughters of the King, parish hall

Living in the Spirit

Weekly & Monthly Reminders

Vestry Meeting	Sept 18th	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Centering Prayer	Sept 19th	5:30 pm	Nave
Choir Practice	Sept 21st	7:00 pm	Nave
Daughters of the King	Sept 25th	11:45 am	Parish Hall
Women's Circle	Sept 27th	6:30 pm	Nave
EYC	Sept 28th	6:30 pm	Starbucks
Men's Prayer Breakfast	Oct 8th	8:00 am	Parish Hall
Healing Eucharist	Oct 12th	11:00 am	Nave
Pack for Beans & Rice	Oct 14th	9:00 am	Parish Hall
Beans & Rice	Oct 15th	9:00 am	Narthex
Holy Spirit 101	Oct 16th	11:45 am	Rector's Office
Bunco	Oct 20th	6:30 pm	Parish Hall

Save the Date

Mondays,

Sept 19 – Oct 24 Wisdom's Way – A spiritual exploration of the Bible's Wisdom Literature, 6:30 pm
Sun, Sept 18th Foundation of the Faith Inquirers/Adult Confirmation Class Begins, 9:30 am
Sat, Oct 1st Bark in the Park, Veterans Park, 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Sun, Oct 2nd Blessing of the Animals, 2:00 pm
Wed, Oct 5th Celtic Eucharist, 6:30 pm
Wed, Oct 12th Healing Eucharist & Lunch, 11:00 am
Sun, Oct 16th Children's Liturgy, 10:30 am service
Wed, Oct 26th Bethany Village Update with Bishop Kee Sloan, 6:00 pm
Sun, Nov 13th Confirmation & Bishop's Visit, 10:30 am
Sun, Dec 4th Annual Parish Meeting, 11:30 am
Sun, Dec 11th Lessons & Carols, 5:00 pm

Dear Holy Spirit Family,

This past week there were four new opportunities to deepen our connection to Christ and to one another. I am grateful for the tremendous response to these programs. On Saturday, a group of men gathered to cook, pray, eat, and share stories in the **Men's Prayer Breakfast**. Although I am unqualified to participate in this gathering, I hear the guys had a great time and new friendships were made. All men are invited to join them the second Saturday of every month. Monday night we began the **Wisdom's Way Class**, exploring the Wisdom Literature in the Bible and how it intersects with our lives today. There are many references to Wisdom in the Bible. One of those is Proverbs 3:18 where Wisdom is described in this way: "She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy." Come and mine this treasure trove of scripture with us. All are welcome! Although this is a series, please feel free to join us even if you can only make some of the classes. Tuesday evening the **Women's Circle began the Living Compass Faith and Wellness Series**. The premise of this program is a Christian approach delving into how the Spirit is calling us to greater wellness and wholeness right now. Although this group will not be open to new members until January, if you are interested in the Women's Circle, please let me or my co-facilitator Mary Hodgetts know. (If there is a need to form new circles I am open to that, in order to facilitate sharing and confidentiality there are limited slots. I also would welcome restarting the Holy Spirit ECW if there are women who are excited about making that happen.) On Wednesday, the Feast of the Holy Cross, a group of us ranging in age from 4 months to octogenarians worshiped together in the **Healing Eucharist**. Afterward, we gathered for lunch. The worship was restorative and the lunch was fun. We will offer this worship and bring your own lunch the second Wednesday of every month at 11 am.

Reflecting upon this past week, I am struck by how many different people in our community participated in these varied programs. It is exciting to see a range of ways to learn, pray, serve, and play together. Oftentimes smaller gatherings beyond our Sunday worship offer the best opportunity to get to know one another. If you have any questions about these programs or others you'd like to see us offer, please let me know.

On another note, the **Gifts of the Spirit** campaign has been quite successful with a number of parishioners completing their survey—many of whom are new to Holy Spirit. Thank you! You are welcome to join into any ministry throughout the year. Fear not if you didn't fill out your form, you can at any time. Ministry leaders will be contacting respondents in the next few weeks. Thank you all for making Holy Spirit such a loving and vibrant part of the Body of Christ.

Yours in Christ,
Mary Bea+

Church Happenings

Foundations of the Faith Sundays from 9/18 to 9/6 at 9:30 am

Have you wondered why we celebrate the Eucharist each week? What the different colors of the priest and altar's vestments mean? Why we use a Book of Common Prayer? Mary Bea, Alison, and Malcolm will share the teaching for this Adult Forum Series that focuses on the Episcopal/Anglican tradition. This course is required for those seeking to be confirmed or received during the Bishop's visit on 11/13. However, all are welcome to learn and share your experiences.

Wisdom's Way—a practical and spiritual exploration of the Bible's Wisdom Literature

Mondays, September 19th – October 24th at 6:30 pm

Join Mary Bea for this 6-week exploration of Wisdom Literature in the Bible focusing on Proverbs, the Book of Job, Ecclesiastes, and the Wisdom of Solomon. We will reflect upon the writings of these ancient sages and how they inform our spiritual life today. The format will incorporate lecture, group discussion, and spiritual practices that support our growing in wisdom. "Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her." Wisdom of Solomon 6:12.

MISSION TRIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING, Friday, September 23rd

Do you have a calling to participate in an exciting experience with sharing God's love around the world (Tegucigalpa Honduras) in June 2017? Doug & Carol Smedley are holding a session at their house on Friday, September 23rd. We are in partnership with St. Stephens in Birmingham and will be sharing this adventure with their parish as well. There are only 15 spots available and I know that several of those are already signed up. Dinner will be provided and you will have the opportunity to get information on El Hogar, hear the experiences of missionaries, what to expect, the expense, fundraising and of course, fellowship. Contact Carol at 902-7569 or Doug at 965-6004 so we can have enough food for everyone. Gracias

Habitat for Humanity Build Day, Saturday, September 24th, 7:30am – 4:00pm

We have committed to recruit 13 volunteers to assist Episcopal Diocese Habitat for Humanity. We will serve alongside volunteers from St. Francis for a build day in Calera. Skills are helpful but not required!! We are also looking for breakfast and lunch sponsors that...more info to come. If you would like to lend a hand that day, sign up at <http://holyspirit-al.org/volunteer-spot/> or 621-3418.

Cursillo Open House, October 7th, 6:30pm

If you are interested in going to Cursillo or just learning more about it, please join us! We will have several Cursillistas (people that have already been to Cursillo) at the meeting as well. This is not a "secret society"! There are many wonderful surprises at Cursillo and I truly believe that when the Lord leads you to go, you get exactly what you need from it, and you leave with a lasting impression, a changed heart, lifelong friends and community centered on our Lord and living in the spirit. Bring the kiddos! We will have some youth group members to watch over them. Please bring a snack to share! Beverages will be provided.

Next Cursillo – Oct 6th -9th. Contact Kim Sorensen if you'd like to attend, ksorensen@jackhenry.com.

Thank you...

- The Men's Breakfast planning team--Buzz Palmer, Al Delchamps, Jason Portney, and Doug Smedley, for creating a way for the guys to gather.
- Sharon Greer, Buzz Palmer, Michael Matthews, and the parish life team for executing a wonderful Anniversary celebration!
- Allyson Agee and Mandy Golightly for planning and organizing the Gifts of the Spirit campaign and responses.
- Mary Hodgetts for assisting with the Women's Circle.

Diocesan/Local Offerings

Birmingham's Got Potential, Sept 24th at 7:30pm, Good People Brewing Company

Special Session at Camp McDowell invites you to Birmingham's most stupendous, most marvelous, and most fantastically wonderful talent competition in the history of the city--"Birmingham's Got Potential", to be held at Good People Brewing Company on Sept. 24, 2016 from 7:30-9:00 p.m. Tickets, which can be purchased online or at the door, are \$15.00 or \$20.00 including a plate of gumbo. All proceeds from this event will support Special Session at Camp McDowell. http://dioala.org/dfc/newsdetail_2/3180263

A Day on Addiction and Recovery, October 15th

The Diocesan Department of Recovery Ministries is presenting *A Day of Addiction and Recovery* at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church October 15th. The program will feature keynoters Michael O'Keefe and Travis Meadows. There will also be break-out sessions focusing on families, addiction as a disease, young adult issues, and what's out there? The day will close with a Recovery Eucharist. Lunch will be provided.

Fall Fling for 5th & 6th graders at Camp McDowell, October 14th- 16th

The Diocese is hosting a Fall Fling for 5th & 6th graders at Camp McDowell. Cost is \$125 and scholarships are available. For more information go to www.campmcdowell.com/retreat/fall-fling or contact Stratt Byers at Stratt@campmcdowell.com. REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN.

District Day 2016, September 25th 2pm-4pm

District Day is an all EYC event hosted by Dioala Youth Department will be held at Crestline Park, 1115 Dunston Avenue, Birmingham, AL 35213. Contact Mother Mary Bea if interested.

Getting Ready to Get Ready, Saturday, November 19th

Join the Diocesan Commission on Spirituality and the Daughters of the King for a quiet day of reflection to prepare for the Advent season at St. Mary's on the Highlands from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Cost is \$15 (lunch provided) – register at <http://bit.ly/getreadyday>.

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.

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, September 11, 2016.

Pledged.....	\$3,052.00
Unpledged.....	\$ 492.00
Parish Life.....	\$ 102.93
Boston Barbeque purchases.....	\$ 35.00
Flowers.....	\$ 55.85
Total Contributions.....	\$3,737.78

Please pray for...

Bishops and Clergy: Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury; **Michael** Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop ECUSA; **Kee** Sloan and **Santosh** Marray, Alabama Bishops; **Mary Bea** Sullivan, Rector; **Alison** Carmody, Priest Affiliate; **Malcolm** Marler, Priest Affiliate; **Stan** Wright, Priest Affiliate

Diocesan Prayer Cycle: Our companion dioceses of Alaska & the Virgin Islands & their bishops Mark & Ambrose; Ministry of all church musicians and choir members; St. Matthew's, Madison; St. Matthew's in the Pines, Seale

Ministries and Programs within The Church of the Holy Spirit: Worship Team (Acolytes, Lectors, LEMs, Ushers), Mow & Clean Teams, Daughters of the King, Coffee Hour Ministry

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

For all people everywhere especially: Those impacted by the flooding in Louisiana, earthquakes in Italy, and wars throughout the world.

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); **Shirley** Marshall (Allyson Agee); **Francie and Alan** Gardner; **Fred** Aldrich (David Aldrich); **Carl** Bruner; **Susan** Vincens (Janet Palmer); **Candice & Ben** Hudson (Mandy Golightly); **Olivia** Kilgore; **Brandy** Carmichael (Debra Dickey); **Susie** Burnside (Mandy Curry); **Stephen & Theresa** (Mary Hodgetts); **Bud** Montgomery (Carol Smedley); **Betty & Baylee** Marek; **Barbara** Conyers (Mary Bea Sullivan)

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: David Divers (9/18), Gladys McKay (9/20), Stan Wilke (9/20), David Aldrich (9/22), Marla Aldrich (9/28), Samuel Bainter (9/30), Betty Marek (10/1)

Upcoming Anniversaries:

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit ♦ Reverend Mary Bea Sullivan, Rector

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

Rev. Mary Bea's days off are Friday & Saturday (but may be reached for emergency)

858 Kent Dairy Rd; PO Box 2365 Alabaster, AL 35007

205-621-3418 ♦ Emergency 205-329-4862

www.holyspirit-al.org ♦ office@holyspirit-al.org ♦ marybea@holyspirit-al.org