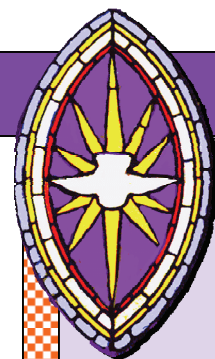


March 7-20, 2010



HOLY COMFORTER NEWSLETTER

NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE!!!

There will be only one service at 9:00 AM each Sunday.

Sunday School will follow at 10:15 AM.

Please carefully review the weekly schedule on page 2.

The Church of the Holy Comforter
Episcopal
2911 Woodley Road
Montgomery, AL 36111
334.281.1337
office@holyccomfort.org

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3/7-3/20/10

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Montgomery, AL 36111
334.281.1337
office@holyccomfort.org
www.holyccomfort.org

Service Hours

Sunday Holy Eucharist : 9:00 AM

Weekday Holy Eucharist & Unction:
Tuesday: 10:00 AM

Evening Prayer:
Wednesday: 6:00 PM

Office Hours

M-F 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Food Pantry Hours

M, W, F 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Crisis Information

For Pastoral Care, call the following in the order listed until you make contact:

Church Office
334-281-1337
The Rev. Drake Whitelaw
334-263-9196 (H)
334-300-3039 (Cell; use only for emergency)
Nelya McKenzie
334-284-5078 (H)
334-315-1261 (C)
334-244-3558 (W)

Doubting Thomas The Rev. Thomas Joyner

Before you know it we'll be in Holy Week. Holy Week is where we most truly encounter the mystery of God in Christ in our liturgy and worship. I'd like to spend the next several of these 'Doubting Thomas' times to begin to lay some groundwork to make Holy Week this year an experience of deep prayer and connection with God.

The Triduum (the three liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil of Easter) together capture the meaning and significance of Christ's life, death and resurrection. Seen properly, they are not three separate liturgies but one liturgy spread over three days. I invite and encourage all of you to make this Triduum a part of this year's Holy Week.

I want to focus on Maundy Thursday first. For Maundy Thursday the focus and the invitation is to servanthood. The readings from John's gospel invite us into the fellowship of Christ centered around the act of being a servant and the table. We're invited to participate in the intimacy and love of a meal shared together as we're reminded of our call to serve and be served by others in Christ's command to have our feet washed.

I know having your feet washed is something that makes many uncomfortable. It can leave us exposed and vulnerable to sit there with our feet for all to see and we worry about little bits of sock lint on our feet or whether they smell or look pretty. But that's not what this experience is about; all of our vanity in having other people see our feet or how they look pales in comparison to the act of love that comes in the symbolic act of the water, the basin and the towel. Jesus tells us: "Do you know what I have done to you? For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you."

Continued on pg 3



Please Pray For:

Parishioners:

Melissa Carlton
Robyn Craig
J.D. Johnson
Wayne Peterson
Marietta Sexton

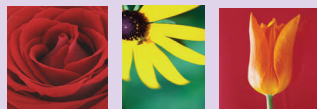
Friends/ Others:

Walter Alvarenga
Laura Bell
Edie Gilger
Mike Kelley
H.D. McGraw
Fiona McLeod
Judy Ross
Martha Dell Stancik



Open Flower Dates

April 11, 18, 25
May 23
June 13, 20, 27
July 4, 25
August 8, 22, 29
October 17, 24, 31
November 14, 21, 28
December 12



Weekly Schedule: March 7-13, 2010

Sunday, March 7
Discretionary Fund/
Hunger Sunday

8:00 AM Breakfast
8:00 AM Choir
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist—
Rite I
10:15 AM Coffee Hour
10:15 AM Sunday School
5:00 PM Youth

*Nursery available at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, March 9

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist
NO Bible Study
11:00 AM St. Anne's
6:00 PM Book Group

Wednesday, March 10

11:00 AM St. Mary's
12:05 PM Lenten Luncheon
(St. John's)
3:00 PM Coffice
6:00 PM Holy Eucharist
6:30 PM Supper
7:00 PM Choir

Friday, March 12

10:00 AM Spirituality Class

Weekly Schedule: March 14-20, 2010

Sunday, March 14
Daylight Saving time

8:00 AM Breakfast
8:00 AM Choir
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist—
Rite II
10:15 AM Coffee Hour
10:15 AM Sunday School
5:00 PM Youth

*Nursery available at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, March 16

10:00 AM Holy Eucharist
11:00 AM Bible Study
6:00 PM Book Group

Wednesday, March 17

12:05 PM Lenten Lunch-
eon (St. John's)
3:00 PM Coffice
6:00 PM Holy Eucharist
6:30 PM Supper
7:00 PM Choir

Friday, March 19

10:00 AM Spirituality Group

Daylight Saving Time
March 14, 2010
DON'T FORGET TO
SPRING FORWARD!!!



March Worm Schedule

Mar. 7: Jeremiah: Movie
Mar. 14: Jeremiah: Story
Mar. 21: Jeremiah: Kitchen (cascarones)
Mar. 28: Jeremiah: Music

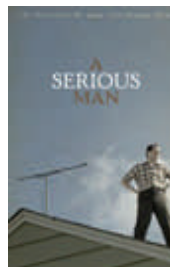


Youth March Schedule

All times are 5-7pm at the church unless otherwise noted

March 7: games/activity
March 14: (Spring Break) dinner at Street Cafe for
those in town @ 6pm
March 21: Alan Jones visit to Holy Comforter
March 28: (Palm Sunday) outreach visit to Baptist South to
deliver crayons and coloring books

Dinner and a Movie



Please plan to join the Tuesday night discussion group
for dinner and a movie on Tuesday, March 9 at 6pm in
McMaster Hall. The movie is 'A Serious Man' written
and directed by Joel & Ethan Coen (Raising Arizona,
Miller's Crossing, Fargo, O Brother, Where Art Thou,
No Country for Old Men). The movie is a modern take
on the story of Job and is rated "R". Please come, bring
your dinner with you, a comfortable chair and join us
for this movie.



WANTED: Coloring Books and Crayons

The youth will once again be taking crayons and coloring
books to the kids at Baptist Hospital. We need your help in
donating coloring books and crayons for us to take. Please
donate them to Thomas anytime before Friday, March 26. Thank you
for your help for our youth and the youth of Montgomery.



In Sympathy

The Holy Comforter family would like to offer
its deepest sympathy to Kathy Barrowman and
family on the death of her father John Dun-
woody.

May his soul and all souls that have gone on
before him rest in peace.

Lectionary Readings:
Year C, 3 Lent

Sunday, March 7
Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

.....Daily Office.....
Year Two, 3 Lent

Tues., March 9:
Daniel 3.25-27, 34-43
Psalm 25.3-10
Matthew 18.21-35

Wed., March 10:
Deuteronomy 4.1-2, 5-9
Psalm 78.1-6
Matthew 5.17-19

Lectionary Readings:
Year C, 4 Lent

Sunday, March 14:
Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

.....Daily Office.....
Year Two, 4 Lent

Tuesday, March 16:
Ezekiel 47.1-9, 12
Psalm 46.1-8
John 5.1-18

Wed., March 17:
1 Thessalonians 2.2b-12
Psalm 96.1-7
Matthew 28.16-20



Diocese of
Alabama
Cycle
of Prayer

Sunday, March 7

- St. Mary's, Childersburg
- St. Paul's, Lowndesboro
- Our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishop, Zaché; our missionaries to Namibia, Jeremy and Penny Lucas
- Diocesan Department of Architecture
- Vocare Steering Committee
- Happening Steering Committee

Sunday, March 14

- St. Stephen's, Smith Station
- Our companion diocese of Haiti and its bishop, Zaché; our missionaries to Namibia, Jeremy and Penny Lucas
- For all lay professionals in the church All Episcopal Day Schools: Advent Day School (Birmingham), Holy Trinity (Auburn), Holy Cross (Montgomery)

Dear Ms. Kendrick and Holy Comforter Members,

Speaking on behalf of the foster children in Montgomery County, we want to thank you for your generous donation this past Christmas.

It gives us pleasure to have our children experience normal events in their lives that they have often been deprived of. Your donation helped to make this possible and we hope your kind gesture made you feel a part of this also. Many foster children felt the true spirit of Christmas through your kindness.

Again, we thank you for your generosity and compassion

Sincerely,
Cheryle Thomas, LBSW
Montgomery County DHR



Sawyerville Day Camp

Staff applications are now available! This year applications will be done online!

Please visit:

www.sawyervilleworkproject.org/2010_Camp.php

Take a few moments to fill out some basic info, thoughtfully answer some questions and let the staff coordinator know when you're available! Deadline to apply is April 1, 2010. Apply now!

*2010 Camp Dates: Session 1: June 25th—July 3rd
Session 2: July 9th-17th*

You must be 16 years old to apply. Please contact Louise Griffin at lougriffin@gmail.com or (205)613-7066 for more information.

Central Alabama Laubach Literacy

The Central Alabama Laubach Literacy Council needs volunteers to tutor adults one to one in basic reading skills. Prepare for tutoring by attending a ten-hour training workshop at the Adult Literacy Center, St. Jude Church.

Saturday, March 13, 2010 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 20, 2010 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

For more information, please call the Adult Literacy Center at 264-1239.
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Doubting Thomas (continued from pg 1)

This liturgy, begun in the 4th century with footwashing by the 7th century, calls us from observation into participation. We're no longer observers of Jesus but now called to imitate Jesus. This imitation comes, as Jesus says, in the form of a command, to serve others as he serves us.

Then, at the liturgy of the table, that servanthood is powerful and visible in the receiving, blessing, breaking, and sharing of Christ where we, in turn, are broken and shared with God's people.

The conclusion, with the stripping of the altar and the removal of consecrated element as well as the adornment expresses the absence of Jesus who has been betrayed and removed from the people. This absence calls us into a new understanding and, with the example of servanthood from the washing of our feet, comes a new relationship and a new invitation to be Christ in the world. And so we leave in silence and awe, to return on Friday to revisit the new identity between the people of God and Jesus.

Thomas

Thank you!

Thank you Kathy Barrowman and the ladies of St. Anne's guild for the wonderful reception for the Bishop's visit and confirmation. Thank you to all who helped make it a wonderful reception.

And thank you to Terri Via for organizing the Holy Comforter portion of the youth progressive supper that same night. Thanks to Julie Speaks, C.J. Hodges, Natalie McLemore, Ellen Wood and Carol Kendrick for all their help for this great night.

Thank you for all you do.

Thomas

S t a f f

Rector:

The Rev. Drake Whitelaw

Curate:

The Rev. Thomas Joyner

Administrative Assistant:

Diane Harbin

Secretary/Receptionist:

Eleshia Lusane

Choir Master/ Organist:

Joel Gregory

Day School Director:

Jenny Miller

Sexton:

Samuel Bates

Housekeeper:

Mary Jane Flowers

Nursery Worker:

Pat Lewis

V e s t r y

Senior Warden:

Terri Via

Junior Warden:

Elva Goldman

Treasurer:

Susanne Trest

Clerk:

Michael Paul

Members:

Leanne Barber

Dennis Gibson

Bil Hitchcock

Rose Lollar

Nelya McKenzie

Billy McLemore

Ann Montgomery

Rand Neeley

Zola Powers

Kevin Trest

Parish Renewal Program for Holy Comforter

Last year about this time, a group of people from the parish got together and considered the possibility of writing a proposal to the Lilly Endowment for a Clergy Renewal grant in conjunction with Drake's planned sabbatical. We knew it was a long-shot, as they receive thousands of applications, and fund about 150. As you know, we applied for, and, by the grace of God, we received a grant, one of only 149 parishes nation-wide. In addition to clergy renewal, the proposal materials also specify that the Lilly Endowment will pay for a Parish Renewal Program to occur during the Rector's sabbatical. You probably have seen the signs around Holy Comforter advertising the Parish Renewal Program. Because we received this grant, Drake was able to put the money Holy Comforter had been setting aside for her sabbatical, almost \$10,000, back into the operating budget for 2010.

After a parish-wide meeting in November, a small committee has been working hard to get this program underway for Holy Comforter. The Lilly Endowment specifies three elements: a send-off for the Rector, a welcome-back event and then renewal elements we propose to help the parish renew itself. The send-off was the ECW Valentines' Dinner. The rest of the events we have scheduled are the following:

March 21, 2010 - The Rev. Dr. Alan Jones comes to Holy Comforter. He will preach at the 9:00 am service, and speak at 6:00 pm at Holy Comforter, with the title: **"In the End We Shall Be Examined in Love : Living With Uncertainty in Troubling Times."**

April 11, 2010 - Dr. Dierdre Good, General Theological Seminary. She will preach at the 9:00 am service, and speak at 6:00 pm at Holy Comforter, with the title: **"Images of Community and Church in the New Testament."**

April 23-25, 2010 - Parish Weekend at Camp McDowell. We will endeavor to get all members of the parish to attend. In addition to the usual cabins in "lower camp", rooms have been reserved in "upper camp" for people who do not enjoy the more primitive conditions below. Funds from the grant will be used to subsidize total costs.

July 10, 2010 - Holy Comforter's Charity Golf Tournament and Parish Picnic will be held to benefit the food pantry and welcome Drake as she returns from her Sabbatical.

Our idea was to use grant funds to improve and build upon programs we already have in place. One new element is the ability to bring in nationally known speakers. The visits of Dr. Jones and Dr. Good are extraordinary opportunities for Holy Comforter. We hope you will help us by planning to attend them, and also by inviting your friends and colleagues to hear these wonderful speakers.

Yours in Christ,
Rosine Hall, Thomas Joyner, Dabney McKenzie, Terri Mendheim, Douglass Porter, Zola Powers, Ron Russell, Ami Simpson, Frances Steele, and Jeri Tippit

Parish Retreat is Coming! April 23-25

Many of our members will be involved in this wonderful weekend of fun. This is an unstructured weekend and you are at your leisure for fishing, eating, canoeing, snacking, hiking, playing bridge, reading, or just plain sitting and visiting. And, there's the wildly popular Holy Comforter vs. Holy Comforter softball game where everyone has a chance to play, cheer or do both.

The cost for the weekend is \$58 per person to stay in the lower camp cabins and \$66 per night to stay in Scott house (Friday night through Sunday noon) and two nights lodging. Meals are included. Children six and under eat and sleep free! Scott house rooms are dormitory style, for those who need to stay up the hill. Scholarships are available, so please contact Thomas if financial assistance is needed. If enough people are interested transportation will be provided.

To make reservations, contact Carol Kendrick at 262-6373. Don't miss out on this one time a year, fun-filled weekend!

St. Anne's Guild

St. Anne's Guild will meet Tuesday, March 9th at 11 a.m. at Olive Garden.

St. Mary's Guild

St. Mary's Guild will meet in the library at 11:00 on March 10th. Becki Toulmin and Jean Murray will be our hostesses for lunch. Hope to see all of you there, now that the weather is turning warmer/better. Come join us and bring a friend.

Holy Week Schedule 2010

Palm Sunday, March 28

Blessing of Palms/ Memorial garden

9:00 AM Holy Eucharist

Monday, March 29

6:00 PM Holy Eucharist

Tuesday, March 30

6:00 PM Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, March 31

6:00 PM Holy Eucharist w/ supper

Maundy Thursday, April 1

6:00 PM Holy Eucharist with Choir

Good Friday, April 2

12 Noon Community Good Friday Service
At Whitfield Memorial UMC

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross/ Memorial Garden (weather permitting)

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 3

6:00 PM Holy Eucharist

Easter Sunday, April 4

9:00 AM Family Service w/Holy Eucharist & Flowering of the Cross

10:00 AM Reception

10:15 AM Egg Hunt/Cascarones

11:00 AM Holy Eucharist with Choir