



EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS

90 Parkway Drive | Trussville, AL 35173

205.655.7668 | [www.holycrosstrussville.org](http://www.holycrosstrussville.org)

Rector: The Rev. Wes Sharp

Deacon: The Rev. Dn. Susan Southwick

Organist & Director of Music: Justin R. Finch

Children's Minister: Heather Johnson

Student Minister: Jason Varnadore

Parish Administrator: Janice Ridgeway

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MARCH  
2020

*the* **PATHWAY**  
CHURCH *of the* HOLY CROSS NEWSLETTER

Holy Cross is dedicated to raising up faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, committed to genuine Worship, loving Fellowship, and passionate Mission.



### WE HAVE A NEW ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR!

Holy Cross is excited to announce that **Thomas Meacham** has accepted this position. Please give him a warm welcome into our parish family. Also, if you are interested in participating in our choir, see Tom for further details.

HE MUST INCREASE, BUT I MUST DECREASE.”  
-John 3:30-

### MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR:

#### A Season of New Hearts!

The season of Lent is that time of year when we turn our attention toward repentance and preparation for what is to come. It has long been understood that the Lenten season allows us to appreciate the Resurrection of Jesus that follows. While we remove the “Alleluias” for 40 days, it creates in us a longing to bring them back on Easter morning with vigor and passion. I can personally testify with a resounding “YES” of how sweet those words sound after having gone through this season of repentance! Therefore, during this time, I would like to challenge us to experience even more.

Dean Pearson, from Cathedral Church of the Advent, recently said, “There is no biblical requirement to practice Lent, but the Book of Common Prayer invites us to the observance of a “holy Lent.” The Dean is correct, in that while the practice of sack cloth and ashes is biblical, there is no stated Lenten observance passed down from biblical times. Therefore, is there more to it than just not getting “Alleluia?” Is there more to it than giving up sweets, wine, or other things we enjoy on occasion? The answer to that question is also a resounding “YES!” The season of Lent is not a competition to see if we can hold out for 40 days without something we love or like. Rather, it is meant to be a time to bring us to a better understanding of our sinful nature as broken people. In so doing, we experience the richness of grace through our Savior Jesus Christ, who came to save sinners.

During Lent, I want to encourage you to pray diligently for the Lord to change you from the inside out. Choosing to give up something as a behavior modification just for the sake of saying we can do it is not experiencing the new heart that Jesus so desires for us. So, whatever it is you give up during these 40 days, be mindful that real change only comes through repentance and renewal. It is in those moments that Jesus begins the transformative process of making us more like Him and less like us (John 3:30). When the desire to give into the temptation we are seeking to avoid overwhelms us, run to God’s word, both in personal study and faithful preaching!

To quote the good Dean again, “Self-denial may be exactly what you ought to practice during Lent, but the greater point is that you see yourself in need of a Savior, Jesus Christ, who is mighty to save.”

To the observance of a Holy Lent,

*Wes* +



# what's HAPPENING?

## DIOCESE OF ALABAMA COMMISSION ON AGING:

invites you to attend their half-day seminar, "Plan Well – Life is a Journey," scheduled for **Saturday, April 25, 2020, from 8:00am to 12:15pm** at St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church, Indian Springs, AL. Guest Speakers: The Rev. Dr. Malcolm Marler, Director of Pastoral Care at UAB Hospital, The Rev. Dr. Robert Serio, Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine at Huntsville Hospital, and Shannon Atchenson, LCSW, Service Coordinator of Episcopal Place. The seminar is free of charge. For more information contact Susan Southwick at [smartsue@juno.com](mailto:smartsue@juno.com), or [elders@dioala.org](mailto:elders@dioala.org).

## HOLY CROSS PRAYER TEAM

consists of 26 members, who pray daily for those listed for prayer in our weekly Sunday bulletins. Parishioners are encouraged to alert the church staff when they are scheduled for surgery or having serious physical issues and would like to be placed on our prayer list. Anyone may request prayers for someone who needs our prayers. Prayer requests will automatically rotate off the prayer list in two months unless otherwise noted. If your prayer request is no longer needed during that time, please contact Janice to remove it from the list.



## SUNDAY PRAYER TEAM

We would like to have a prayer team available at the 10:30am service for those who request special prayer after communion. If you are interested in volunteering to be a part of this team, contact Fr. Wes for further details.

## ECW UPDATES:

At our January 22nd meeting, the following ECW Luncheon Meeting dates were approved: February 19th, March 25th, April 22nd, May 20th, June 24th, July 22nd, August 26th, September 23rd, October 28th, and November 18th. Our Soups & Sweet Sale on February 2nd was a success, and a motion was made and approved that all the profits be applied to the project to renovate our sacristy. Alyce Daniel, Laurie Nabors, and Louise Wood will continue to be responsible for organizing funeral receptions. A new committee to organize receptions for the Sacrament of Baptism will include Courtney Dollar, Sue Peterson, Inga Strickland, and Charlotte Scarborough.

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME REMINDER:

It's time to "spring forward" at **2:00am, Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** by manually moving forward your watches, clocks, etc. one hour. Your cell phones, computers, etc. automatically make this change.

## COMMUNITY HOLY WEEK SERVICES/LUNCHEONS

AT TRUSSVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: HOLY CROSS ECW is scheduled to provide for and host the first meal of Holy Week on **Monday, April 6th**. Those who plan to make soup and/or serve at the luncheon should sign-up (sheet is on the ministry table in the narthex.)

## MISSIONS

Holy Cross had two mission-related events in February. Our workday with GraceWorks was held on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Fran Bramlette organized the opportunity for us. Parishioners of all ages attended and there was work for all. The team helped with cleaning and renovation of Grace Place, a donated former church building that will be the home of GraceWorks programs in the future. Participants reported it was a satisfying day and we will look forward to other opportunities.

Cindy Wester reported a great Holy Cross turnout (14 parishioners) for the Lovelady Center's Legacy of Love Luncheon on February 15<sup>th</sup>. Cindy said the speaker, Ron Hall, was wonderful. He is the author of *Same Kind of Different as Me*, a New York Times bestseller and movie. The luncheon was an opportunity to be in fellowship with each other, the Lovelady Center and others while providing support to the Center's programs. - **Julie Barnard**



# what's HAPPENING?

## ALTAR GUILD:

If you would like to make a special donation toward the renovation of our sacristy, please make your check out to Holy Cross and indicate "sacristy" in the memo line. An open invitation to become a part of the Holy Cross Altar Guild is extended to our parish. We ask that you prayerfully consider becoming a participant in what will be a blessing for you and our entire church.

## OUR FLOWER GUILD

currently services our parish with eight members on a rotation of every five weeks. They work closely with the Altar Guild at Christmas, Easter, and other occasions. In addition, their weekly altar arrangements beautify the sacred space of our church and display their creative talents. You may reserve flowers for the altar in honor of someone special or remembrance of a loved-one, etc. Our 2020 Altar Flower calendar is located on the wall to your left as you enter the Genesis Room, and altar flower reservation forms are available on the sign-up table beneath the calendar. Reservation forms should be filled out and given to the church office at least two weeks prior to your requested date. A check in the amount of \$30.00, made out to Holy Cross with "altar flowers" in the memo line, should be placed in the offering plate or brought to the church office. PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO ALTAR FLOWERS UNTIL EASTER SUNDAY (April 12).



## EASTER LILY SIGN-UP SHEET

IS ON THE MINISTRY TABLE IN THE NARTHEX: They are \$15.00 each. Please make checks payable to Holy Cross and indicate "Easter Lily" in the memo line.

## THANK YOU, HOLY CROSS,



For truly showing your neighborly love during the TEAM "Love Your Neighbor" food drive. For the past two weeks, Danny and I have hauled lots of grocery bags from the church to the car for delivery to TEAM! During March, let's concentrate on baby supplies: diapers, formula, and food. The basket is still in the narthex. Please feel free to contact me at [cldollar@gmail.com](mailto:cldollar@gmail.com) if you have any questions. -**Courtney Dollar**

## LENTEN STUDY:

Join us during this season of Lent, as we read through the books of Colossians and Philemon. On **March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th and April 1st** (the five Wednesdays that follow Ash Wednesday), we will meet for a fellowship meal at **6:00pm**, followed by a teaching and small-group discussions about what we have read and how it is impacting our lives. Children's and Youth ministry will provide activities that night and nursery will be available.



HAPPY  
**Birthday**  
TO YOU!

### MARCH

Bryce Lewis	2	Doug Grove	15
Andrea Mathews	2	Charlotte Scarborough	17
Emma Percy	6	Davis Perry	20
Ray Walczuk	7	Lily Johnson	21
Kendra Rushing	10	Bill Krueger	24
Robert Davis	13	Emily Rushing	24