

# The Mainsail

<http://www.stsimonpeter.org>



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## BIRTHDAYS:

1	Davis Glenn Bruce Bower Ross Vines
2	Judy Cochran
3	Frances Grant
4	Victoria Sears
6	Judy Tumlin
8	Rita Barham
10	David Burrow
11	Martha Walker
12	Ethan Fisher
14	Susan Powell
15	Nathaniel Berry
18	Betty Barnes
20	Matthew Power
22	Alice Sims
23	Kaitlyn Burrow
26	Kelli St.John
27	Jonathan Noble Lindsay Garner
30	Eric Knepper, Sr
31	Betty Daugherty Della Turner

## Rector's Corner

***Jesus came not to warn us of a future day of judgment and to frighten us into keeping the law sufficiently so that when our deeds are put on the weighing scales we can get into heaven. Jesus came, and comes now, to convert us, through love, to change our hearts of stone into hearts of flesh – to love us so much that we shed tears of repentance. And change our ways.***

(Br. Geoffrey Tristram)

In their recent Alban Institute article, *Finding Yourself in the In-Between*, theological professors and authors Beverly A. & George B. Thompson, Jr. draw the conclusion that Christians today continue to be a people on an amazing journey...even though we may not consider our faith in such light. They postulate that Like Abram and so many other biblical ancestors who followed the Holy Spirit's influence, we are continually led "a new place of promise and hope"; as each of us travels a path God has set before us. And, like any journey, the path we choose to follow usually includes twists and turns, high roads and low places, and even shadows of darkness and despair that we each must learn to navigate. Here's an extract of what more they have to say....

*"Most people prefer to have a clear idea of where we are going and how we will get there. When planning a trip, some folks turn to maps, while others look to a GPS to guide them. But few of us have the time (or patience!) simply to head out, twisting and turning in circles, never certain where we are or how to get to our next destination. In our instant, want-it-now American culture, we usually seek the quickest and most direct path.*

*Congregational life is no different. When you decide to join a community, your faith journey takes another turn. You are no longer traveling alone; you have united your individual journey with the journeys of others. Your life will begin to change as you travel with others, even if you assumed your pathway would remain exactly what it was when you climbed onboard.*

*Most of us join churches that seem to have a clear direction, only to discover sooner or later that the roads we travel by faith rarely are smooth. Every congregation faces times in their life together when a blind turn or unexpected shift takes them down a different road. Suddenly, the church finds itself in an unfamiliar and uncertain place. You try to make sense of your surroundings, to figure out where to go from here. Going back is not an option, but it's not easy deciding where to turn next. This twist in your journey calls your congregation out of its ordinary routine. You have entered an in-between time, a space in which things may no longer feel familiar and comfortable. Naturally, this in-between time brings with it more than a bit of anxiety.*

*If your community of faith is in the midst of one of those in-between times right now, have no fear. Rather than living in anxiety, this can be for you a time to celebrate—because you have entered a phase that is expectant with grace. This in-between time can become a sacred space for discovering new life-giving possibilities for your community.*

*When things are rocking along as usual, it's easy to forget that we are not just another group of people who happen to get together on Sundays. We are a people called by God—and God has a purpose for us. Eugene Peterson, a pastor and respected writer, once said, "The assumption of spirituality is that always God is doing something before I know it. So the task is . . . to become aware of what God is doing so that I can respond to it and participate in it."*

*The busyness of our lives as both individuals and as communities of faith pushes us outward, rarely giving us room to stop and listen. In-between times invite churches to create sacred space where we can discover and rediscover God's call. As you begin to envision divinely inspired possibilities, your church will begin to realize the blessings of leaning into in-between times."*

So, take time to be still and silent, and allow God to speak to your heart. Listen carefully; and honor what you might hear from the holy. That's what I commend to you...both in your own personal spiritual journey and in all our endeavors as Christ's community together. Christ encourages us never lose hope! For it is that very hope that Christ came and released us from such earthly burdens. Thoughts to ponder...Peace to all!

*Fr Jeff+*

## Announcements

**ECW T-Shirt Sale:** Please mark your calendar and tell your friends to attend the Tees' Shirt sale Saturday, October 8th from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Funds will be used for ECW outreach. The ECW will be providing breakfast. Please remember your breakfast item for those who have signed up to bring them. Please see Debbie Cearley for more info.

**Pumpkin Palooza** -- By the time you read this the pumpkins will have been received and ready for sale. Sale hours for the pumpkins are 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM daily (Sunday 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM) throughout the month of October. Sign-up sheets for staffing the pumpkin sale are on the desk at the Church office. The shifts are four hour each. Please sign up for a shift(s) and do your part for this important fundraiser.

**White Elephant Sale** -- (Formerly the Country Store) is up and running. We have received many truly nice and interesting items for the sale. You have been very generous. Continue to bring items for the sale so we can keep the shelves full. And remember Ann's Orphans are beautifully refurbished and ready for a new home. Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets for the beautiful hand make quilt. Hours of operation are the same as the pumpkin sales. Questions or suggestions? Contact Jo King (205-586-8586) or [jbking1550@charter.net](mailto:jbking1550@charter.net).

**Lessons & Carols:** It's that time of year again, and we are looking for people who would like to join us in singing our Lessons & Carols Service! Our choir practice for Lessons & Carols will be every Thursday, starting in October, from 7pm to 8pm. We would love to have any and everyone who is interested. If you have friends who might be interested please feel free to bring them also. I will have music packets ready for anyone who wants to sing by October 2nd. Our Lessons & Carols service will be Sunday, December 18th @ 4pm. Please contact me or email me @ [kenorg2@yahoo.com](mailto:kenorg2@yahoo.com) if interested or just show up for choir practice on Thursday night. --Kenny Lewis

**DOK Quiet Day:** OCTOBER 22: A "quiet day" does not mean that you are quiet all day. It means friends gathering together for fun, fellowship and meditations led by a spiritual leader. This year it is being held at the home of Shirley Wilson, from 10:00am to about 2:00pm and all women are invited. This year's leader is Sister Chris from the Holy Trinity Retreat Center in Georgia. Just bring a sandwich and join us for a GOOD day.

**United Thank Offering Ingathering:** We have a great treat for our UTO Ingathering on Oct. 23. Many years ago, the women of the Dioceses of Alabama donated their gold and silver jewelry to be melted down and form into the UTO alms basin. This year Rita Barham has obtained this alms basin for the Ingathering. Be sure to bring your 'Little Blue Box' on Sunday Oct. 23rd. To your box please add a generous check so that this will be St. Simon Peter's largest thank offering. We do have so much for which to thank our God.

**Cheaha Convocation Fall Meeting:** The fall meeting will be at St. Peter's in Talladega on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Bishop Parsley will be the speaker and celebrant. This will be his last visit with us as our bishop. Please plan to attend.

**Diocesan Fall Retreat:** The upcoming Diocesan Commission on Spirituality 2011 Fall Retreat with The Right Reverend Larry Maze will be held November 18-19 at Church of the Ascension in Vestavia. Please see the flyer on page xx or contact Christine Watson for more info.

**Special Announcement:** Scott and Elise Moreland welcomed their son, John Carter on Sept. 9th at 10:01 pm at Brookwood Hospital. John Carter came in at 5lbs, 15oz, and 20 inches long. His big sister Emily was there to welcome him along with their Dad. Please remember us in your prayers as we rejoice in this happy time. - James Moreland

**Sunday Hosts / Hostesses:** We desperately need people to sign up for the rest of the year as Hostesses / Hosts for our Sunday Fellowship time. It doesn't have to be elaborate, nor difficult. Most of us have time to eat and enjoy the many treats a dedicated few offer us to share each week. Keeping this tradition is a sign of Hospitality... just as in the many Biblical stories where food and fellowship were offered to visitors and family alike. Remember, it is a ministry...one that is just as important as any other aspect of being Church together; and, one I hope each of you will find it in your heart—and in your creativity—to participate in throughout the year. The list is posted to the kitchen door. Please sign up!

**The Love Pantry Needs Your Help:** St. Simon Peter is collecting peanut butter and placing in the basket for the Love Pantry. This is even more important to remember, as the Love Pantry is putting an additional jar in each sack. They have twice the number of clients plus extra people from the tornados in the area. They have increased what the tornado victims can receive to every other week. Also, the Love Pantry is looking for a supply coordinator. This should only involve a couple of hours each week. Please contact Debbie Cearley for more info.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: Call for new Newsletter Publisher & Webmaster!!!** We are looking for a new person or two to take on the monthly STSP Mainsail Newsletter as well as the STSP website. Due to both school and family requirements, Lindsay will be stepping down as the newsletter editor and webmaster after two years. This is simply a process of collecting inputs, dates & other information from parishioners & Fr Jeff, and then placing them together for publication. If you are interested in taking on these important ministries please contact Lindsay or Fr Jeff. Thank you!

“Angels are figments of the imagination. And yet to say so is not to denigrate their spiritual value or undermine their importance. We need a feast to celebrate the imagination because our imagination is one of the spiritual gifts that brings us into deeper relationship with God.”

~ Br. Eldridge Pendleton

## Sunday School for All Ages

New Sunday School classes will begin October 2nd. Find your place in these classes. If your child does not go to the regular they should be in Nursery or Children's Church. Children's Church teaches a Bible lesson connected to the sermon and what the symbols of the church mean. They play and do crafts too.

Children's Church teachers are: Connie Hollis, Ana Berry, Lindsay Garner, Marge Fricker, & Whitney Hollis.

**Sunday School will begin after refreshments @ 11:00am.**

**Nursery** -Held in the regular nursery room.

Ages – 6 weeks – 3 years

Teachers: Josue Almada, Adonis Fisher.

\*\*We need two more teachers for only one Sunday a month. Wouldn't you like to be these "littles"

Christians first teacher? Plus they are so much fun to play with.\*\*

**Primary** - Conducted in the primary room where Children's Church is held.

Ages – 4 – 6 years

Teachers: Kirk Walker, Jo Ann King, Laurel Almada, & Anna Hollis

Curriculum – *Kingdom Safari*

**Intermediate** - Conducted in the intermediate room off the parish hall.

Ages – 7 – 11 years

Teachers: Melinda Darby, Joey Berry, Debbie Cearly & Shirley Wilson

Curriculum: *Crime and Punishment*

**Youth** - Conducted in the Upper room.

Ages – 12 and up

Teachers : Brandon Darby, Donette Bower, Rita Barham

Curriculum – *Proverbs*

\*\*We need another teacher to teach one Sunday a month. These students, growing into adulthood, need the guidance of the scripture and our example.\*\*

**Young Adult** – Conducted in the library or the nave.

Teacher: Fr. Jeff Garner

**Adult** – Conducted in the garden room.

Teachers: Fr. Jonathan & Lucy Magnus

## From the Finance Committee

### St Simon Peter Financial Update

01/01/2011 - 09/30/2011

	2011 Actual	2011 Budget	Difference
Plate Offerings	\$ 23,528	22,500	1,028
Pledges	117,000	121,078	(4,078)
Other	7,140	1,580	5,560
<b>Total Inflows of Cash</b>	<b>\$ 147,668</b>	<b>145,158</b>	<b>2,510</b>
Administrative	99,271	99,940	669
Church Operations	34,919	31,141	(3,778)
Outreach Programs	17,200	12,613	(4,587)
<b>Total Outflows of Cash</b>	<b>\$ 151,390</b>	<b>143,694</b>	<b>(7,696)</b>
<b>Difference in Inflows and Outflows</b>	<b>\$ (3,722)</b>	<b>\$ 1,464</b>	<b>\$(5,186)</b>
<b>Outreach as % of Income</b>	<b>11.6%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>3.0%</b>

\* \* We have a shortfall in cash for the Parish in the amount of \$3,722 through September 30,2011



### 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him."*

*Matthew 21:39*



### 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find."*

*Matthew 22:9*



### 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."*

*Matthew 22:21*



### 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."*

*Matthew 22:40*

## Bishop Maze Describes the Retreat:

On Friday evening we'll begin with something called "Walking the Inner Faith ...and Then What?." Paying attention to the inner life contained in every soul is countercultural in this fast-paced, materialistic, and highly rational society. Most who seriously walk an inner path have made an intentional decision to go there. Our opening talk will explore the importance of making that decision and what to do once the journey is launched.

On Saturday we can begin with "Discovering the Shadow." This is an exploration of the Jungian concept of shadow—those things in every life that have been disowned in the exterior world and still exist in the interior life. This is a key step to take on the inner path simply because we cannot understand much about ourselves until we know something about what is hidden inside. Then, the session called "Wholeness and Incarnation," an exploration and discussion of biblical themes of God's presence in every moment and every thing and every place—whether or not we know it and whether or not we care.

## SCHEDULE

### Friday, November 18

6:30 - 7:00 Registration  
7:00 - 9:00 Walking the Inner Path... and then What?

### Saturday, November 19

8:30 - 9:00 Late Registration and Gathering  
9:00 - 10:30 Discovering the Shadow - Making Sense of our Interior World  
10:30 - 10:45 Break  
10:45 - 12:00 Dream Workshop  
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch  
1:00 - 2:00 Wholeness and Incarnation  
2:00 - 2:15 Break  
2:15 - 3:00 Dreamwork, Discussion and Questions

### Note:

Church of the Ascension is located in Vestavia Hills, one block west of U. S. 31 at 1912 Canyon Road, behind Publix and the Rave Cinema. (Map at [www.ascensionepiscopal.org](http://www.ascensionepiscopal.org))

## THERE IS MORE TO YOU THAN YOU THINK

### Fall Retreat, 2011

#### REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email for confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Deadline: Thursday, November 10

Lunch : Vegetarian?  Yes  No

Total (with lunch): \$55.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

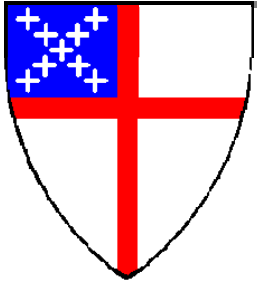
Checks payable to: **Diocese of Alabama**

Send this form with check to:

Sarah Sartain  
Carpenter House/COS FALL Retreat 2011  
521 North 20th Street  
Birmingham, AL 35203-2682

**St. Simon Peter  
Episcopal Church**  
3702 Mays Bend Road  
Pell City, AL 35128

**Phone** (205) 884-0877



**Revolving Weekly Schedule:**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays**  
12noon Kiwanis

**Each Tuesday**  
12noon Rotary

**Tuesdays / Thursdays**  
7:00pm AA Group  
(Garden Room)

**Each Wednesday**  
10:00am Holy Unction &  
HE II, followed by Bible / Book Study

1:00pm Knitting Group  
(Garden Room)

**Thursdays**  
7:00pm Choir Practice  
7:00pm ALANON  
7:00pm AA Group



**31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
*“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”*  
Matthew 23:12

**Dates and Events (October 2011):**

- 1 - DOK (9am in Chapel)  
Ordination of Deacons – Advent (10:30am in Birmingham)
- 2 - Feast of St. Francis Celebration  
Sunday School Classes begin  
Blessing of the Animals (2pm outside Parish Hall)
- 3 - Finance Committee Meeting (6:00pm in Small Classroom)
- 5 - Finance Committee Meeting Supplemental (6:30pm in small classroom)
- 8 - ECW Shirt Sale & Breakfast (9:00am-12:00pm in Parish Hall)
- 9 - Holy Baptism  
Vestry Meeting (noon)
- 10 - Columbus Day (Parish office closed)
- 15 - Men’s Group (8:00am)  
DOK (9am in Chapel)
- 23 - UTO Ingathering (during Eucharist)
- 25 - ECW Cheaha Convocation (St. Peter’s, Talladega @ 9:45am)
- 26 - Newsletter inputs due
- 28 - Bp Parsley Farewell Dinner (The Club, Birmingham)

**During the week:**

Sunday	Choir Practice The Holy Eucharist Fellowship Time Adult Sunday School EYC/YPF	8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. Following Worship Services Following Fellowship Time 5:30 p.m.
Monday	AA	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	Cursillo Reunion Group #1 AA	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Cursillo Reunion Group #3 Holy Eucharist Bible Study Needle Work Ministry	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
Thursday	Cursillo Reunion Group #2 (1st & 3rd Thursdays) Choir AA/ ALANON	6:30 p.m.  7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

**Office hours for St. Simon Peter Church are Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** (Lunch normally mid-day)  
In case of pastoral emergency outside these office hours, please contact Fr. Jeff at (205) 338-2882 (home) or (205) 753-0047 (cell).

**STSP Website Update:** Visit <http://www.stsimonpeter.org> for full interactive event calendars, photo galleries, inspirational multi-media and forums, online forms & registries for events, state & national diocese information and so much more!

**REMEMBER:** During October, the Pumpkin Palooza, Country Store, and Ann’s Orphans are for sale on the grounds and in the parish hall. In addition, remember those RAFFLE TICKETS for the quilt drawing!

**We’re on the Web!**

<http://www.stsimonpeter.org>

E-mail: [stsp\\_rector@centurytel.net](mailto:stsp_rector@centurytel.net)  
Episcopal Diocese of Alabama: <http://www.dioala.org>