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Faith Alive's bright, yellow logo shows the sun as a symbol of faith being renewed, as it bursts through the dark blackness of our bondage to sin. The red

reminds us of the shed blood of Jesus, which brings us alive in him. "Faith Alive!"



Cathedral Church of the Advent

2017 6th Avenue North Birmingham, Alabama 35203 (205) 251.2324 • adventbirmingham.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I am writing to inform you that the Cathedral Church of the Advent is planning a parish-wide retreat, to take place at the Advent, January 29-31, 2010. The weekend will be conducted by an organization of lay people known as Faith Alive. Other parishes have participated in similar weekends for the past four decades with great success. The weekend consists of some 100 lay volunteers from all over the country who will come to the Advent to be with us and share how their faith in Christ has shaped their lives. Our guests will witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and its impact in their everyday lives.

Parishioners of all ages are warmly invited. We will gather for dinner Friday evening at the Harbert Center and return to the Nave as a group for singing and the opportunity to hear a from a few of our guests. Afterwards the adults will break into small groups throughout the church for individual discussions while the children and teens will have their own programs.

Saturday, participants will meet in Adventers' homes throughout our neighborhoods for more discussion led by the team members. The young people will meet separately with activities just for them. We will reconvene at the church where the men and women will meet separately for lunch and more short talks by the team members. In the evening we will meet for coffee and dessert and then convene in the Nave with a format similar to Friday evening.

Our weekend will conclude on Sunday at all three of our morning worship services and will be followed with a Sunday evening gathering to discuss and celebrate our weekend together. I hope you will prayerfully consider participating in this important weekend both for you individually but also for this parish. The Faith Alive weekend has the potential to draw us closer together as a church family within the Body of Christ. The feedback we are getting from other churches has been fantastic. Hearing the accounts of these faithful Christians and their struggles will encourage us to examine how Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit is working in our own lives.

We anticipate a great turnout for this weekend and have much preparation ahead of us. Please prayerfully consider getting involved in a myriad of different ways. There will be opportunities to house one or more guests in your home, host a neighborhood coffee, offer transportation, be a part of the Prayer vigil on Thursday night and many more ways. Your volunteering will be a great enhancement to the success of our Faith Alive weekend.

Most importantly, commit this weekend to prayer. Ask God's blessings for the weekend, for the team members and their safe travel, and that we will be lifted up as a congregation to live in the joy of our redemption through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

Faithfully,

frank

The Very Reverend Frank F. Limehouse III

Dean of the Cathedral

Dear Parish Family:

After Dean Limehouse approved exploring the possibility of having a Faith Alive weekend at the Advent with Vice Dean Harper organizing it, the Vice Dean asked me several months ago what I thought about having such a weekend. Since I didn't know much about the program, I went away for research and prayer.

Faith Alive is a witnessing fellowship that visits parishes of all denominations to energize and encourage them. It seeks to help parishioners express and share their faith with others. It can also be a means to discern areas of new lay ministry for the church. Finally, in the words of the ministry, the Faith Alive Weekend is "fundamentally an opportunity for us to take a new look at what God can and will do in our lives"

I was impressed by what I learned about Faith Alive and encouraged by the testimonials of other churches around the nation that have held Faith Alive weekends (including St. Martin's, Houston when Larry Gipson was their Rector). I then took this information and began to pray.

My prayer time led me to encourage the Dean and Vice Dean to pursue the Faith Alive weekend. Why? Well, for the following reasons:

• The Advent is a wonderful parish that has been blessed with many years of faithful teaching and preaching by clergy and lay leaders. It is a parish that holds fast to the faith handed down from the Apostles. I believe that the Holy Spirit can use the Faith Alive weekend to encourage and empower

us to take the Gospel with renewed joy and vigor into this broken and weary world.

- I believe it will be a time of rejoicing in the saving grace of Jesus Christ and provide an opportunity to rededicate our lives, mind, heart, and soul to the Lord.
- I believe it will be a time when we can come together as a church family; a chance to get to know other Adventers, people who you perhaps see on Sunday but have never met or people who attend the Advent at one of the other service times.
- I believe that the Faith Alive weekend will also provide an opportunity to draw in Adventers who perhaps feel that they are on the periphery, and engage them in the active ministry of the Advent.
- Finally, I believe that the Holy Spirit intends the Faith Alive weekend for this parish to be a time of encouragement and of building up of the body of Christ in this place.

So, I lift this weekend up to you and invite you to begin praying for the planning team. More importantly I ask that you pray that this weekend would be a time when the Holy Spirit sets us on fire for the work of the Lord.

In Christ,

The Reverend Canon Heidi Kinner Canon Missioner and Advent Day School Chaplain

FAITH ALIVE: A WEEKEND FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY TO GROW IN CHRIST

What is Faith Alive? Faith Alive is a weekend parish-wide program that can be an opportunity for each of us to take a new look at how our faith shapes our lives.

The weekend is staffed by our own parishioners and over 100 lay people who will come from all across the country at their own expense to encourage us as they talk about how their faith impacts their daily life. In small gatherings on Friday night and Saturday, they share and explore with the parish how God can be more real to each of us. The weekend will include speakers on Friday night and on Saturday, separate men's and women's luncheons, in-home coffees, fellowship, prayer, music, food and specific programs for young people and children.

If you have been wanting to take that first step towards a relationship with Christ, or if you are looking for an opportunity to rededicate your life—mind, heart and soul—to the Lord or if you would like to get know other parish members better, Faith Alive may provide that opportunity. All you need to do is sign up for the weekend.

Who attends? The entire Advent Church family will enjoy Faith Alive; there will be programs (and several meals) for all age groups.

When is the Faith Alive weekend? January 29 – 31, 2010

Where will the Faith Alive weekend take place? Most of the weekend activities will take place at the Advent. The neighborhood coffees will be held in various parishioners' homes.

How do I sign-up? Look for registration forms in Clingman Commons or on the website (adventbirmingham.org). or call Troy and Ann Haas (223-8079) or Don Menendez (871-2169).

How can I help? If you would like to help us organize and prepare for the Faith Alive weekend, please call Co-Chairs of the event Miriam and Clay Morris (335-4243). They will find the perfect place to use your time, talent, effort and energy.

COME SEE.

FAITH ALIVE WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Thursday

24-Hour Prayer Vigil

Friday	
2:00-4:00PM	Faith Alive team members arrive
	from all over the United States
5:45 PM	Dinner for all members of the
	parish and team at the Harbert
	Center
6:30 PM	Introduction of Faith Alive team
	members, singing, and several
	short talks (sharing of faith) by
	the team
7:00 PM	Teens and children depart for
	their own programs
7:30 PM	Small group discussions led by
	team members
8:15 PM	Program in Nave
8:45 PM	Adjournment

Saturday	
9:45 AM	Teens and children meet at church
10:00 AM	Neighborhood Groups. (Small
	groups in neighborhood homes.
	All adults participate.)
12:00 Noon	Separate luncheons for men,
	women, teenagers and children
5:45 PM	Dessert and coffee
6:15 PM	Program of singing and brief talks
	by team members
7:00 PM	Small group discussions
8:30 PM	Adjournments
	-
Sunday	
7:30, 9:00 &	Traditional Worship
11:00 AM	•

It is important for those who participate to make every effort to attend all events since the weekend builds on itself.

5:00 PM

Contemporary Worship

A Faith Alive Weekend is a growing renewal experience. The visiting team will respect each person in the parish and where each is spiritually.

At the small group sessions, led by Faith Alive team members, everyone will be given the opportunity to speak, but will not be pressured to do

FAITH ALIVE 2010 COMMITTEES

General Chairs 335-4999 Clay Morris

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	Bob Goodwin	939-3252	
Decorations	Reb Baker Rebbaker1@aol.com	323-7488	
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	Ginger Mayfield ginger@cathedraladve	226-8563 nt.com	

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john@cathedraladvent.com

Clergy Advisor

A letter from the president of

FAITH ALIVE

For more than three decades, tens of thousands of church members like you and me have prayerfully reflected on their vows of Baptism and Confirmation while attending a Faith Alive Weekend in their parish.

Such events, led by lay men and women serving under the spiritual direction of the church's clergy, have been held in some 2,400 churches in North America and abroad.

The clergy and lay leadership are believing with us that God will bless this mission, providing your parish community with a new experience in spiritual refreshment, perhaps bringing fresh focus for the active churchgoer while drawing into your fellowship those who have not yet discovered the caring extended-family community offered by the Advent.

Above all, this is an opportunity to listen to the experiences of fellow lay men, women and youth from other churches who are willing to share their spiritual journey and how they seek God's leading on the job and in the home – perhaps finding new purpose in employment, a fresh outlook in school, and direction in parenting, in homemaking, and in serving Him.

We believe that you will find Faith Alive of great value. We encourage you to at least "taste" this new experience, which has been applauded by bishops and other clergy for its special value in bringing one's "Faith Alive!"

I personally plan to attend and lead the Advent's Faith Alive of which I am eager to be a part and look forward to meeting each of you.

Tom Riley President, Faith Alive Ministries Alburquerque, NM

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