



# MIMI

MORAL MONDAY GEORGIA

next rally

# Jan 27

GA CAPITOL 4-6 PM

**MARCH  
WITH US**

at the MLK parade

**Jan 20**  
1 PM

**STAND UP  
AGAINST**

stand your ground

**Feb 3**  
4-6 PM

For more information, visit  
[www.moralmondayga.com](http://www.moralmondayga.com)

# Stephen Ministers: The After People

People often ask, “What exactly is a Stephen Minister?” One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.

## *Stephen Ministers are there:*

- ... *after* the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- ... *after* the divorce papers are served and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ... *after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ... *after* the doctor says, “I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do.”
- ... *after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”
- ... *after* the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ... *after* the gavel goes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ... *after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ... *after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ... *after* your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the “After People.” They are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed.

[www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org)





# Parenting Bus Trip

## *Trip Information*

*Birmingham Civil Rights Institute*

*Sunday, February 16, 2014*

*Cost: \$35.00 per person, includes bus ride and admission to  
The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute*

*Buses will depart from Our Lady of Lourdes at 7:00 AM and return at 7:00 PM*

*Deadline for signing up is Sunday, February 2, 2014*

*Sponsored by The Parenting Ministry*

*Our Lady of Lourdes Church*

Reprinted from booklet: King, Martin Luther, Jr. Letter From a Birmingham Jail.  
Philadelphia, PA: American Friends Service Committee, 1963.

*The following is a verbatim copy of the public statement directed to Martin Luther King, Jr. by eight Alabama clergymen, which occasioned his reply, the "Letter From a Birmingham Jail."*

**Clergy Letter written to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

We, the undersigned clergymen, are among those who, in January, issued "An Appeal for Law and Order and Common Sense" in dealing with racial problems in Alabama. We expressed understanding that honest convictions in racial matters could properly be pursued in the courts, but urged that decisions of those courts should, in the meantime, be peacefully obeyed.

Since that time, there has been some evidence of increased forbearance and a willingness to face facts. Responsible citizens have undertaken to work on various problems which cause racial friction and unrest. In Birmingham, recent public events have given indication that we all have opportunity for a new constructive and realistic approach to racial problems.

However, we are now confronted by a series of demonstrations by some of our Negro citizens, directed and led in part by outsiders. We recognize the natural impatience of people who feel that their hopes are slow in being realized. But we are convinced that these demonstrations are unwise and untimely.

We agree, rather, with certain local Negro leadership, which has called for honest and open negotiation of racial issues in our area. And we believe this kind of facing of issues can best be accomplished by citizens of our own metropolitan area, white and Negro, meeting with their knowledge and experience of the local situation. All of us need to face that responsibility and find proper channels for its accomplishment.

Just as we formerly pointed out that "hatred and violence have no sanction in our religious and political traditions," we also point out that such actions as incite to hatred and violence, however technically peaceful those actions may be, have not contributed to the resolution of our local problems. We do not believe that these days of new hope are days when extreme measures are justified in Birmingham.

We commend the community as a whole, and the local news media and law enforcement officials in particular, on the calm manner in which these demonstrations have been handled. We urge the public to continue to show restraint should the demonstrations continue, and the law enforcement officials to remain calm and continue to protect our city from violence.

We further strongly urge our own Negro community to withdraw support from these demonstrations and to unite locally in working peacefully for a better Birmingham. When rights are consistently denied, a cause should be pressed in the courts and in negotiations among local leaders and not in the streets. We appeal to both our white and Negro citizenry to observe the principles of law and order and common sense.

Signed by: C.C.J. Carpenter, D.D., LL.D., Bishop of Alabama  
Joseph A. Durick, D.D., Auxiliary Bishop, Diocese of Mobile-Birmingham  
Rabbi Milton L. Grafman, Temple Emanu-El, Birmingham, Alabama  
Bishop Paul Hardin, Bishop of the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the Methodist Church  
Bishop Nolan B. Harmon, Bishop of the North Alabama Conference of the Methodist Church  
George M. Murray, D.D., LL.D., Bishop Coadjutor, Episcopal Diocese of Alabama  
Edward V. Ramage, Moderator, Synod of the Alabama Presbyterian Church in the United States  
Earl Stallings, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama