

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

August 18, 2010

The mission of the Episcopal Church of the Nativity, as part of the family of God, is to proclaim and spread the word and work of God through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, by Eucharistic worship and by ministry to the world.



CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY,
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843



Sunday on Thursday

Can't get to Church this Sunday, going out of town, other commitments preventing you from getting to church on Sunday?

Nativity continues to offer a worship opportunity on Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. in Bibb Chapel.

This service utilizes the same readings as the upcoming Sunday, allowing you to say your prayers and worship prior to the weekend if you will be away. It is come as you are, from work or the gym, as casual as you need to be to get here! REMEMBER to make God a part of your weekend pilgrimage, offer your life and purposes to God's holy purposes as we gather for Eucharist on Thursdays.

DO YOU FEEL IT?

**The Excitement, The Energy...
everything that is Nativity.**

The new church year is fast approaching and the next two Sundays are all about getting everyone on board!

NATIVITY MINISTRY FAIR—Sunday, August 22

In addition to being a celebration of all the wonderful ministries happening here at Nativity, it is also a chance to get more involved. Come by (between 9:00 -12:00) and find your place in one of the many great ministries Nativity has to offer.

"The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."
_Frederick Buechner

Get your family copy of Nativity Green Book (directory)
Meet teachers, volunteer teams, register for fall classes & MORE!
Refreshments will be served (muffins, biscuits, fruits, & drinks)

**The Children's ministry will have open house and
registrations in the WoRM.**

HOMECOMING PARISH PICNIC

August 29 after 10:00 service

**A fun way to say goodbye to the summer schedule
and gear-up for the upcoming exciting 2010-2011 schedule!**

- Church will provide meats, drinks, & desserts
- please bring a side dish (enough to share with others)
 - Food will be served from Ridley Hall
- Tables and chairs will be set up under the Big Tents!
 - Music will be provided by Chip Gulbro.
- Children will find sno-cones for dessert on the playground .
 - Remember to dress casual, comfy, and cool.

PARISH NEWS and upcoming EVENTS



Summer Nights @ Nativity presents: MICROWAVE DAVE and the NUKES

August 22, 6:00

Come and enjoy an great evening on the lawn* with friends and family.

Bring a picnic for you and your family/friends or just sit back and enjoy the music. Remember to bring your lawn chairs or blankets.

**in case of inclement weather the event will be held in Ridley Hall.*

Gathering God's Good Gifts—Tuesday August 24, 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

at St. Thomas Episcopal, Huntsville—A one-day retreat to explore three of God's good gifts:

Living in **BALANCE**, Living on **PURPOSE**, Living and **CARING**



Enjoy the gift of good company while exploring the gifts of Balance, Purpose, and Caring in our lives.

There will be time for prayer, learning and laughter, reflection and ritual, and nourishment.

Pre-registration is required 256-533-2455 no later than Thursday, August 19

Bishop Search Survey Available Online

The Search/Nominating Committee invites all members of the diocese to complete a brief survey online at <http://bishopsearch.dioala.org> under the "Survey" link. Those without internet access can call the church office (256-533-2455) to have a copy of the survey mailed.

ECW 121st Fall Conference...October 7-8...Anniston - All women & clergy are invited. This conference will help our ECW future, please make plans to attend.

Serving Others in Christ: Mission and Ministries in the Diocese of Alabama: The Rev'd Margaret Rose will be program presenter. She is the Director of the Mission Leadership Center at the Episcopal Church Center, New York. Conference to be held at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal, Anniston, AL.

\$30 Registration Fee includes lunch Thursday, Wine and Cheese Reception, banquet Thursday Night, lunch Friday, plus homemade goodies at the breaks!

For more information or registration form, please contact Renee Elliott (256-533-5674) or church office.

Supper Club News

Supper Club will have a pot luck dinner at **6 p.m. on Sunday September 12**, in Ridley Hall. Bring a dish and check us out if you are not already participating. Supper Club is a great way to get to know fellow parishioners.

We will choose our small groups for the next rotation.....so if you cannot be at the pot luck be sure to let Gail Rogers know.

For more info or questions call Gail at 256 539 8044.

Youth and Children's Choirs:

The Christian Formation & Music Team at Nativity has worked out a great plan for the coming year; information will be available soon. **Look for Music booth at the Ministry Fair.**

What: Wine and Cheese Social

When: Monday, August 23rd; 6:00 to 7:30 (firm)

Where: Bannister Room, Church of The Nativity

Who: Everyone interested in helping with the Nativity Bazaar!

Please join Renee Elliot and Glinda Clardy for a planning meeting of the Nativity Bazaar 2010.

We will nibble on 3 scrumptious cheeses perfectly paired with 3 wines!

For more information, please call Glinda at 256.348.5410 or Renee' at 256.783.4167.

A Mountaintop Experience - Children's Teacher Retreat Planned

When: Thursday, September 1

Where: Monte Sano Lodge

Please join us as we welcome Sarah Sartain from the Diocese of Alabama for an enriching experience to help us all get prepared for teaching our children this Fall. Last year's retreat at the Wheeler's lake house with Sarah was truly a mountaintop experience. A majority of last year's participants said that it changed the way they taught Sunday School. At Nativity we strive to make both you and your child's spiritual journey special. We strongly suggest that all Sunday School teachers attend this event. As an added benefit, Walter Thames will cater a fabulous meal for all to enjoy! We will see you on September 1st!

Attention Medical Personnel



Are you interested in adventure? Are you looking for an opportunity to see the world?
Would you like to leave the doldrums of winter in Alabama for a warm tropical climate?

If the answer is YES come join the Medical Mission Group headed to Haiti in January. We are looking for physicians and/or nurse practitioners who have a current Alabama license to help with the annual mission. For details call Bob Serio (256-881-6242) or see us at

the Ministry Fair August 22.

Just Stuff It, The Sequel

On **Sunday, September 5th, after the 10 o'clock service**, we will once again have the opportunity to demonstrate teamwork, that Nativityites are yoked together in service to the homeless. We will stuff meal packs for First Stop in Ridley Hall.

When we had our first session with this in June, we were blessed with a swarm of volunteers, so much so that crowd control became a problem and I almost called in the SWAT team. I'll do better this time. The first 12 volunteers to show up will be *the Chosen*. (Twelve evokes nice vibes, doesn't it?)

Bill Goodson, First Stop Volunteer

The Department of Recovery ministries presents a Spirituality & Recovery Retreat with Brother Luke "Returning Recovery" October 1-3, 2010 at Camp McDowell.

Brother Luke Armour, a native of New York city, became a monk at the Abbey of Gethsemani, Trappist Kentucky in 1978. He has been active in the work of recovery since 1989 and has carried its message throughout the US and England.

Registration begins on Friday, Oct 1 at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30. The program will begin at 7:30. The retreat concludes after lunch on Sunday, October 3, at 1:00 p.m.

Retreat fee is \$150 pp double or \$200 pp single

**Recovery Registration Forms are on the table in Banister hallway or
contact Sarah Sartain 205-715-2060 or ssartain@dioala.org**



HAP Sunday is 9/5.

The following items have been requested.

**Canned meat, cereal, canned fruit, macaroni & cheese,
peanut butter, and jelly.**

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP Revs up again beginning Tuesday Sept 7

1:00 in Library (1st floor of Joffrion Hall) All are welcome - beginners to experienced knitters and crocheters. (We will teach you to knit or crochet.) Bring a friend! This ministry consists of members and non-members of Nativity. Questions? Contact Gail Brown 256-880-1149, 256-508-1561 neptu96@aol.com

Banister Art Gallery features ASCRIBING ARTISTS



A creative ministry bringing together visual artists who desire to ascribe or attribute their work and life to ... Jesus Christ. The ministry is inspired by Psalm 29:2...

Not all Ascribing Artists paint religious themes or Biblical depictions. The subject matter of the artist is not necessarily what make us Ascribing Artists, it is the heart behind the artist with the desire to share the gospel....

Each artist has his/her work labeled and price of each can be found in the price index book. For information you may call Gina Hurst, Art Consultant at 256-361-4960 or email her at AscribingArtists@gmail.com. Brochures are available in the Banister Room during display.

WHAT IS EfM? EfM, Education for Ministry, is a 4-year program of theological education designed for the laity of the church. Nativity offers 3 different groups and if you can contact either mentor for more information or to register for the next semester:

Monday evening mentor: George Thacker, 256-533-3005, george_thacker@bellsouth.net

Tuesday evening mentor: Lea Ellison, 256-520-6652, lea.ellison@comcast.net

Thursday morning mentor: Jeannie Robison, 256-536-0202, jrobis1@comcast.net

Parish Financial Report Period Ending 07/31/2010



	CURRENT MONTH	BUDGET for PERIOD	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD
Pledges Received	\$ 107,768.31	\$ 99,791.67	\$ 575,676.23	\$ 698,541.65
Plate	\$ 2,802.66	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 23,046.39	\$ 26,250.00
Other Revenues	\$ 388.13	\$ 9,125.00	\$ 75,656.93	\$ 63,875.00
TOTAL	\$ 110,959.10	\$ 112,666.67	\$ 674,379.55	\$ 788,666.65
Diocesan, School of Theology, & Out- reach	\$ 15,056.70	\$ 22,583.33	\$ 115,996.56	\$ 158,083.35
Personnel	\$ 67,255.15	\$ 59,598.58	\$ 412,119.61	\$ 417,190.10
Other Expenses	\$ 21,930.77	\$ 30,456.28	\$ 198,763.73	\$ 213,193.60
TOTAL	\$ 104,242.62	\$ 112,638.19	\$ 726,879.90	\$ 788,467.05
NET	\$ 6,716.48	\$ 28.48	\$ (52,500.35)	\$ 199.60

Nights at Nativity

FALL KICK-OFF DINNER

The Spiritual Development Committee presents

Guest Speaker – DR. NEIL LAMB

Director of Educational Outreach
for the HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology

“Ethical Issues Associated with Genetics and Biotechnology”

Wednesday, September 8

Dinner 5:15 PM

Guest Speaker Presentation 6:00 PM

Dinner & Nursery Reservations

Call Church Office 256-533-2455

By Tuesday, Sept. 7, at Noon



Dr. Neil Lamb

Looking Ahead on the Nativity Music Calendar:

- **Summer Choir Continues through August**

If you are curious about what goes on up front in a service this is a great way to check out the lectors, the LEMS, the clergy, and how wonderful it feels to worship as a choir member. All are invited to come into the church around 9:00 or shortly afterwards on a Sunday morning. We learn a simple anthem and review the service music for the 10:00 service. All ages are welcome! Bring a friend who is in town for a visit or get to know a regular choir member a little bit better on a Sunday in August.

- **Concerts**

The Friends of Music Concert Series for the 2010-11 Year is in the final stages of planning. If you want to make sure you are on our Email list please contact Suzanne or Connie in the church office.

In August there are two concerts to look forward to:

- **Sunday evening August 22 Microwave Dave & the Nukes** will provide entertainment for our Lawn Concert Series from 6-8 pm. Bring a picnic, a couple of chairs, and friends and family!
- **Sunday afternoon August 28th at 3 pm Nativity hosts the second concert in the Twickenham Fest Chamber Series.** Featuring Susanna Phillips, Matthew McDonald, and friends, in a fabulous array of musical talents from America's leading young artists, this free concert is open to all who have reserved a seating pass. Please call 256-489-7415 for your reservation.

Information on Musical Events at Nativity can be accessed online or by phone.

The church phone number: 256.533.2455 at extension 216 will provide you with up to date information on concerts, including changes due to the weather, etc.

Updates, flyers, and more of all things happening at Nativity are found on the main church website (front page, or music tab.)

PRAYER LIST

We pray for those who are ill or recovering

Jordan Shaha, Jane Nall, Bill Taylor, Emile Joffrion, Angel Colin, Gerald McQueen, Marie Southworth, Nancy Sabol, Georgia Hendricks, Diane Harvey, Charlotte Laxson, Art Jones, Woody Fleming, Donna McLawhorn, Jeri Newman, Dan Kinard, Jeanne Dowd, B.W. Dortch, Dick Hay, Elsie Olsen, Perry McClain, James Horton, Gene Sullivan, Eileen Sullivan, Leigh Wahl, Bill Marsh, John, Nancy Kelly, Julie Kirk, Joan Bennett

We pray for our Military: Lourie Formby, Afghanistan

We pray for the departed:

Ed Wiatt, brother-in-law of Ed Cobb

Toon Ferrell, father of Kathy Woodard; brother of George Ferrell

Rex Chenoweth, father of Ted Chenoweth

Hazel Dawson, mother of Cheryl Watts

We give thanks for the birthdays of our children:

8/22 David Burson, Alice Burson, Quintin Maddox
8/23 Robin Austin
8/24 Lillianne Dolarhide
8/26 Elizabeth Evans, Hannah Huskey
8/28 Austin Ramsey
8/29 Lucy Ellis, Sam Hartley
8/30 Rachel Joffrion
9/1 Caroline Baugher
9/2 Jane Havron

Dear Fr Andy and Nativity family,

Thank you very much for your hospitality toward me and for your gracious love offerings. What you have done will not only help me as an individual and my study, but I will also share it with my family back in Namibia who are living in poverty.

I therefore cannot thank you enough but let God alone do the rest. In the meantime, may the good Lord continue to bless you and may you prosper.

In God's Love,
The Rev'd Linea P. Haufiku

STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION TIP submitted by Jennifer Retzke

Composting – Basic Information

Compost is organic material that can be used as a soil amendment or as a medium to grow plants. Mature compost is a stable material with a content called humus that is dark brown or black and has a soil-like, earthy smell. It is created by: combining organic wastes (e.g., yard trimmings, food wastes, manures) in proper ratios into piles, rows, or vessels; adding bulking agents (e.g., wood chips) as necessary to accelerate the breakdown of organic materials; and allowing the finished material to fully stabilize and mature through a curing process.

Natural composting, or biological decomposition, began with the first plants on earth and has been going on ever since. As vegetation falls to the ground, it slowly decays, providing minerals and nutrients needed for plants, animals, and microorganisms. Mature compost, however, includes the production of high temperatures to destroy pathogens and weed seeds that natural decomposition does not destroy.

Did You Know That Compost Can...

- Suppress plant diseases and pests.
- Reduce or eliminate the need for chemical fertilizers.
- Promote higher yields of agricultural crops.
- Facilitate reforestation, wetlands

restoration, and habitat revitalization efforts by amending contaminated, compacted, and marginal soils.

- Cost-effectively remediate soils contaminated by hazardous waste.
- Remove solids, oil, grease, and heavy metals from stormwater runoff.
- Capture and destroy 99.6 percent of industrial volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) in contaminated air.
- Provide cost savings of at least 50 percent over conventional soil, water, and air pollution remediation technologies, where applicable.

What to compost - The "IN" list

- Animal manure
- Cardboard rolls
- Clean paper
- Coffee grounds and filters
- Cotton rags
- Dryer and vacuum cleaner lint
- Eggshells
- Fireplace ashes
- Fruits and vegetables
- Grass clippings
- Hair and fur
- Hay and straw
- Houseplants
- Leaves
- Nut shells

- Sawdust
- Shredded newspaper
- Tea bags
- Wood chips
- Wool rags
- Yard trimmings

What not to compost - The "OUT" list

- Black walnut tree leaves or twigs (Releases substances that might be harmful to plants)
- Coal or charcoal ash (Might contain substances harmful to plants)
- Dairy products and eggs (Create odor problems and attract pests such as rodents and flies)
- Diseased or insect-ridden plants (Diseases or insects might survive and be transferred back to other plants)
- Fats, grease, lard, or oils (Create odor problems and attract pests such as rodents and flies)
- Meat or fish bones and scraps (Create odor problems and attract pests such as rodents and flies)
- Pet wastes (e.g., dog or cat feces, soiled cat litter) (Might contain parasites, bacteria, germs, pathogens, and viruses harmful to humans)
- Yard trimmings treated with chemical pesticides (Might kill beneficial composting organisms)

STEEPLE SCHEDULE

The Steeple is published each
1st and 3rd Wednesdays.

To submit events or articles,
you may bring them to Linda
Wheeler in the church office or
email:

linda.wheeler@nativity-hsv.org

The deadline for the next issue is
Monday noon, August 30, 2010.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev'd Dr. Andy Anderson
Rector

The Rev'd Mary Anne Akin
Associate Rector

The Rev'd Brad Landry
Rector's Assistant,
Deacon-in-training

The Rev'd Mary E. Groff
Deacon

Suzanne Purtee
Organist/Choirmaster

Lane Tutt
Adult Christian Formation

Cattie Clanton
Youth Christian Formation

Madeline Mullins
Children's Formation

Elizabeth Foster
Children's Formation

Audrey Clayton
Nursery Coordinator

John Buyse
Property Manager

Al Ford
Sexton

Sally Stockton
Kitchen Coordinator

Beverly Franklin
Bookkeeper/Business Mgr

Connie Gadoski
Worship & Ministry Assistant

Linda Wheeler
Assistant to the Rector
Communication/Publication Admin

Prentice White
Verger/Wedding Coordinator

Vestry
Mac Phillips
Senior Warden
Bland Warren
Junior Warden

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

A member of the clergy is
on call each week.

If you need assistance from a priest
outside office hours, the priest on
call will respond to your page.

The number to call in

Case of an Emergency Only is
256-533-7007.

All other calls should be directed to
church phone

256-533-2455

and follow the prompts to leave a
message for a priest to respond.

Church of the Nativity, Episcopal

208 Eustis Ave. SE
Huntsville, AL 35801

256-533-2455

Fax: 256-533-2374

www.nativity-hsv.org

Non-profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit # 511
Huntsville, AL 35805

We remain with the Summer Worship Schedule
until September 12
please mark your calendars for the time changes

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I, Chapel

8:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist *, Rite II, Church
(Children's Chapel)

10:00 a.m. Christian Formation * for All Ages

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist *, Rite II, Church
**Nursery is available*

SUNDAY on THURSDAY

6:00 p.m.—Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Bibb Chapel
(casual service for all)