

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

March 16, 2011

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.

Looking Ahead to Summer: Sabbath and Sabbatical Time

Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

Exodus 20:8-11

Of all the Ten Commandments, we probably violate the 4th one more than any other. We don't do a good job of keeping the Sabbath in our busy lives and world today. Yet, observing the Sabbath is critical to our relationships with God, each other, and life itself. We learn right out of the chute in Genesis that the cessation of work on the Sabbath is part of the created order in which we proactively claim and rest in the goodness of creation, regularly renewing our commitment to God and life. We observe an intentional and proactive immersion in the life of the Spirit, not a fatigued response to life's busyness. If we do not observe the Sabbath we will grow weary spiritually and physically.

Growing from the deep roots of our faith tradition, Sabbath is a unique understanding of our relationship with God and creation. As a gift God offers and requires, Sabbath does not emerge from the natural rhythm of life: from the keeping of days and months and seasons and years. Sabbath encompasses the holy rhythm of God's very being, helping us see that God is our beginning and our end. In spite of these mortal coils we shuffle about on with their finite beginning and end, our lives in God are something much greater, something good and everlasting.

The commandment to observe the Sabbath has led the Church to embrace sabbaticals for clergy every 5 to 7 years. Corresponding to the ancient Levitical order that God's people grant their cropland—their source of sustenance—a full rest every seven years, a sabbatical is a gift of full, regular rest and renewal to those who nurture God's people. In the Gospels, we hear Jesus inviting his disciples to come away and rest for a while. In the Diocese of Alabama, clergy are offered a twelve week sabbatical after five years of service to their parish. I am most grateful to the Vestry for supporting this time for me this summer, beginning May30th through the end of August (after 8 years of service to Nativity and 17 years of ordained ministry). I am also humbled that the Louisville Institute has provided financial assistance for my sabbatical as one of 39 grant awardees of over 400 applicants.

I am excited about these possibilities and look forward to begin sharing my plans with you this Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the parish hall. My sabbatical will be a time of spiritual renewal and re-invigoration as new approaches to ministry are contemplated and developed. It is also a time for rest, recreation and family renewal as we share invaluable and uninterrupted time together. It gives me the opportunity to pursue a few personal interests that I have mostly ignored due to ordained ministry's heavy demands.

During this three month period, I will "disconnect" from parish life and ministry. The Wardens' Council, the clergy, and I are working on a detailed plan of parish administration and pastoral care and worship implementation while I am gone. Although I will not be reachable through parish e-mails, my plans are to stay connected by sharing my sabbatical experiences through blogging, a new skill I hope to develop!

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY,
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Serving the City 2011

Parish Events and
News

Intercession Requests

The Heart of Lent

Nights at Nativity
during Lent
Speaker Series

Invitations from Dioala
and other events

Upcoming Educational
Opportunities

Worship Schedule

A day with Bishop
Parsley

From the Rector continued from page 1

St. Francis's response to Christ's call to "rebuild my church" has inspired me throughout ordained ministry. After implementing new programming and capital projects at Nativity and my former two parishes, God is calling me to build upon the spiritual foundations. My sabbatical will renew my heart for ministry while preparing to strengthen Nativity's spiritual undergirding through the Catechumenate process of forming Christian disciples.

I begin my sabbatical with a 10-day centering prayer retreat at St. Mary's in Sewanee. Tippy and I will then travel to Assisi and the surrounding areas to visit the places St. Francis was inspired to "build Christ's church." Taking a Tuscan cooking class renews a passion and helps us stay well. Our children Case and Sally will visit in Italy for some focused family time. I will then travel to Armenia (Tippy returns home) for worship and deeper study and reflection within the beauty and mystery of the ancient Apostolic Armenian Church where Christian formation emerged in the fourth century and is experiencing a modern renaissance. Finally I return to The School of Theology at Sewanee for deliberate conversations with church leaders and scholars on the Catechumenate, giving time for further reflection and writing, reading, rest, hiking, golf, playing and yes, cooking!

Sabbaticals contain a balanced configuration of rest, renewal, learning, recreation, and devotion. The Louisville Institute hopes they enable clergy to "slow down to fall in love again." Sabbaticals reinforce the regular observance of Sabbath. These ideas are not only important to clergy, but for us all. We all somehow need to find extended Sabbath, sabbatical time, in our own lives and relationships. That is my prayer. The fruit of this sabbatical will bring positive benefits for our parish, too, enabling us to strengthen lay leadership skills and modeling a way of life God calls all of us to embrace. I am most grateful for this opportunity. *Thank you!*

If you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable, if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs, then you shall take delight in the Lord and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth. Isaiah 58:13-14

Andy +

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



The Mission Guild will meet Monday, March 21 at 10:00 a.m. at Gibson's Barbeque (*Dutch Treat*). Hostess is Mary Vann with Jan Greene and Mary Jean Diehl assisting. Our guest will be Debbie Collette speaking on her recent Medical Mission to Haiti. (Please remember to bring gifts for Aquarius Club.) If you are interested in Nativity Mission Guild please contact Sue Rowan, 256-536-1811.

DIOALA COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE—Earthquake in Japan

Dear Friends,

Friday's unprecedented earthquake in Japan and the subsequent tsunami have caused widespread destruction, loss of life and great suffering. Please keep all those affected by this unfolding tragedy in your prayers.

We have received questions about how to contribute to the relief effort. Episcopal Relief and Development has established the *Japan Earthquake Response Fund* to support the rescue and relief efforts of the Nippon Sei Ko Kei (the Anglican-Episcopal Church in Japan).

Contributions can be made electronically at: <https://www.er-d.org/donate-select.php>.

Additional information is available at: <https://www.er-d.org/JapanEarthquakeTsunamiMar2011>.

Faithfully, Dave

The Rev. Deacon Dave Drachlis



FRIDAY March 18, 7:00 p.m. Young Parent Mixers at the home of Minda and Russ Alexander located at 3614 Nolen Avenue. BYOB and an appetizer to share. Mixers meet each month in parishioner homes, so find a babysitter and join other parents with young children for a time of fun, fellowship, and grownup conversations! If you have questions about Young Parent Mixers please contact Elizabeth Foster 256-533-2455 or efoster@nativity-hsv.org

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

YES, THE MUSTARD SEED IS OPEN during The Transition. Parishioner Amy Neil will be the Proprietor beginning in May, maintaining the parish's partnership in this visible spiritual resource for Nativity in the heart of the city. We are open: Sunday 9:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m. New items continue to arrive! And Sales! All your favorites and more!

First Sunday April 3

is HAP Sunday

please remember our community
by assisting with the items listed.



Spaghetti and spaghetti sauce

Peanut Butter and Jelly

Macaroni and cheese

Toilet Paper

Diapers (all sizes)

An Invitation to join Bishop Parsley

"The Mystery of Faith" Saturday, April 9

An offering of meditations and quiet time

reflecting on the meaning of faith in our lives during the holy season of Lent

THE LOCATION: St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands 1910 12th Avenue Birmingham

THE SCHEDULE: Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. with closing at 2:45 p.m.

COST: \$15 which includes lunch

REGISTRATION: Deadline is April 2.

Registration forms are available in the church office or www.episcopalchurch.org

LOOK FOR THE GRAY NAMETAGS and find answers to your questions!

Have you got questions about something at Nativity? Concerns? Do you want to make a suggestion? Do you want to let us know about some program you really like and want to see continued? **Look for the gray vestry nametags.** Your 2011 Vestry is here to help you and we can do it best if we know what you think and want. We want to hear from you.



A RECAP: On April 17, 2010, 45 churches (with over 2100 volunteers) were involved in 180 various projects in Huntsville communities. The Church of Nativity took part in Serving the City by treating the 72 residents of Russell Erskine Apartments to a scrumptious breakfast, music, and gift bags.

This year we are again treating these residents to another special event. On **Saturday, April 2**, Nativity volunteers will meet at Russell Erskine to give residents a cookout, fun music, and a gift bag of kitchen goodies. Please consider joining us this day to show these wonderful people how special they are. You may also assist with the preday planning activities. Please email Safajane Tarter at starter@hiwaay.net or call 256-539-6336 for more information and to sign-up to volunteer. We need a count of volunteers by March 28 in order to purchase food for the event.

Thank you, Nativity Outreach Ministry Team

Dear Episcopal Clergy and Churches in the Huntsville Area:

As the announcement below indicates, we are holding a day conference on C. S. Lewis here at Sewanee on Saturday, March 26th. This is in conjunction with the North American book launch of *The Cambridge Companion to C. S. Lewis*. If you think this event may be of interest to members of your parishes, please let them know about it! Details are available at the website below. Although the event is free and open to the public, we do request that those planning to attend fill out the online RSVP so we have an idea of how many to expect.

On Saturday, March 26, the University of the South will host the North American book launch of *The Cambridge Companion to C. S. Lewis* (Cambridge University Press, 2010). This volume was co-edited by **Robert MacSwain**, Assistant Professor of Theology and Christian Ethics at The School of Theology, and Michael Ward, Chaplain of St. Peter's College, University of Oxford. The North American book launch will be held in Convocation Hall from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and copies of the book will be available for signing by the two co-editors. The conference is free and open to the public. Those planning to attend are asked to fill out an online RSVP at http://theology.sewanee.edu/seminary/c.s.lewis_conf.

PRAYER LIST

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Ozra Semani, Vernon Lucas, Matt Fowler, Kit Carlton, Charlotte Laxson, Shauna Schafer, Gale Limbo, Lane Mickel, Mary Brink, Nancy Aldenderfer, Eileen Sullivan, Donald Perry, Kingslea de Roode Merkel, Terry Hodge, Jack Wilson, Jeri Newman, Wesley Lavender, Gail Rogers, Sarah Taite Kelly, Joy Gass, Charlie Vowell, Luann McCarty, Elizabeth Weaver, Angel Colin, Sara Welch, Emile Joffrion, Jeanne Dowd, Elsie Olsen, Perry McClain, Leigh Wahl, John, Nancy Kelly, Julie Kirk, Joan Bennett.

We pray for our Military:

Lourie Formby, Afghanistan; John Orosz, Afghanistan

To add a name to the Prayer List, please contact Connie Gadowski in the church office, 256-533-2455. Due to privacy issues, the person must give permission to have their name on the Prayer List.

We pray for the departed:

Eddie Elliott, father-in-law of Al Ford
Cecil Chandler

Dr. Lewis McCurdy, Jr., parishioner

For the peoples of Japan and all other places impacted by the earthquake and tsunami.

We give thanks for the birthdays of our children:

3/22 Noah Pride, Lizzie Clute
3/23 Kristyn Wilson
3/24 Luke Alison
3/29 Robert McCoy
3/30 Hunter Mason
4/1 Travis King
4/2 Sidney Gunter, Carter McDonald, Karl Schneider
4/3 Tindall Morring
4/4 Nannette Aboudonia, Maggie Jones,
4/5 Sean Burke. Celeste Nelson,
4/6 Bankston Creech, Madeline Sharp
4/7 Hanly Ward, Carter Watson
4/9 Mary Kathryn Brooks
4/10 Trey Schiber, Ralph Hornsby, Harper Dawes

We give thanks for the Baptism of:

Elizabeth Storrs DeFiore, daughter of Cate and Michael DeFiore

Ayden Ross Schuppener, son of Laura and Paul Schuppener

We pray for our parishioner: Hunter Shaw Mason attending Spring Break Conference at Camp McDowell.

Interested in attending a Cursillo weekend in 2011? Not sure if Cursillo is for you? Please contact Shelley or Chris Whitney 256-774-1939 Debbie or David Collette 256-830-2451 more about the Cursillo movement at Nativity and in Alabama.

FINANCIAL CORNER

2011 Pledges by March 13, 2011

\$ 500 or <	48
\$501 - \$999.99	49
\$1,000 - \$2,999.99	183
\$3,000 - \$4,999.99	78
\$5,000 - \$9,999.99	52
\$10,000 - \$14,999.99	9
\$15,000 - \$24,999.99	7
\$25,000 or >	3
Total Number of Pledges	429

Total Dollar Amount of Pledges
\$1,252,634.26

Average Pledge \$ 2,919.89

Parish Financial Report Period Ending 02/28/2011

	CURRENT MONTH	BUDGET for PERIOD	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD
Pledges Received	\$ 96,677.25	\$ 99,620.88	\$ 179,870.00	\$ 199,241.80
Plate Other Revenues	\$ 4,490.85	\$ 4,610.38	\$ 13,753.45	\$ 9,220.80
	\$ 3,729.69	\$ 9,169.74	\$ 7,682.31	\$ 18,339.40
TOTAL	\$ 104,897.79	\$ 113,401.00	\$ 201,305.76	\$ 226,802.00
Diocesan, School of Theology, & Outreach	\$ 11,276.03	\$ 21,548.91	\$ 12,905.66	\$ 43,097.90
Personnel Other Expenses	\$ 58,923.43	\$ 62,558.33	\$ 129,333.20	\$ 125,116.70
	\$ 28,270.17	\$ 29,293.73	\$ 55,728.32	\$ 58,587.70
TOTAL	\$ 98,469.63	\$ 113,400.97	\$ 197,967.18	\$ 226,802.30
NET	\$ 6,428.16	\$ 0.03	\$ 3,338.58	\$ (0.30)

EASTER FLOWERS 2011 DEDICATION FORM

Flower dedications for Easter are being accepted from now until Sunday, April 10 for a contribution of \$20. Your check should be made out to "Flower Guild" and mailed to: Andrea Vandervoort, 434 Locust Ave. Huntsville, AL 35801. If you have questions, you may call Andrea at 539-2673.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION, THANK YOU.

Your Name _____

Phone # _____

Do you wish to have your name listed in the bulletin? Yes _____ No _____

Please be specific by underlining or circling above your desired dedication below:

All dedications read The flowers are offered to the glory of God and in ...
memory of or honor of or celebration of...

Please print Christian names of persons for your dedications to be printed in the Easter Service Booklet

STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION TIP

Part 3 of our series on Composting:

Hot Composting

Hot composting requires more work than cold or passive composting, but with a few minutes a day and the right ingredients **you can have finished compost in a few weeks, depending on weather conditions.**

Hot composting piles do best when **high-carbon material**, for example, dry leaves and twigs, and **high-nitrogen material**, such as grass clippings, vegetable and fruit trimmings and peels, are mixed in a 1 to 1 ratio. A pile with the minimum dimensions of 3' x 3' x 3' is needed for efficient heating. For best heating, make a heap that is 4 or 5 feet in each dimension. As decomposition occurs, the pile will shrink. Hot composting piles reach 110 to 160 degrees Fahrenheit, killing most weed seeds and plant diseases.

Steps:

1. Choose a level, well-drained site, preferably near your garden.
2. There are numerous styles of compost bins available depending on your needs. These may be as simple as a moveable bin formed by wire mesh or a more substantial structure consisting of several compartments. There are many commercially available bins. While a bin will help contain the pile, it is not absolutely necessary. You can build your pile directly on the ground. If you do not use a bin, to help with aeration you may want to place some woody material on the ground

where you will build your pile.

3. To build your pile, either use alternating layers of high-carbon and high-nitrogen material or mix the two together and then heap into a pile. If you alternate layers, make each layer 2 to 4 inches thick. Some composters find that mixing the two together is more effective than layering. Use approximately equal amounts of each. If you are low on high-nitrogen material, you can add a small amount of commercial fertilizer containing nitrogen. Apply at a rate 1/2 cup of fertilizer for each 10-inch layer of material. Adding a few shovels of soil will also help get the pile off to a good start; soil adds commonly found decomposing organisms.
4. Water periodically. The pile should be moist but not saturated. If conditions are too wet, anaerobic microorganisms (those that can live without oxygen) will continue the process. These are not as effective or as desirable as the aerobic organisms. Bad odors also are more likely if the pile is saturated.
5. Punch holes in the sides of the pile for aeration.
6. The pile will heat up and then begin to cool. Start turning when the pile's internal temperature peaks at about 130 to 140 degrees Fahrenheit. You can track this with a *compost thermometer*, or reach into the pile to determine if it is uncomfortably hot to the touch.

7. Check your bin regularly to assure optimum moisture and aeration are present in the material being composted.
8. Move materials from the center to the outside and vice versa. Turn every day or two and you should get compost in less than 4 weeks. Turning every other week will make compost in 1 to 3 months. Finished compost will smell sweet and be cool and crumbly to the touch.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you plan to build a wood composting unit, avoid using lumber treated with copper arsenate (CCA), creosote, and penta. (You should also avoid using these types of lumber around vegetable gardens.) Toxic compounds from the wood preservatives could leach into your compost. The compounds are harmful to humans and pets. They have been shown to cause cancer and skin and eye irritations. Instead, **use** wood that is naturally resistant to decay **such as cedar or untreated pine**. (Structures built from pine will probably have to be replaced within a few years, but by then you may be ready for a multiple bin unit or a new design!)

Using Compost

Compost can be used for all your planting needs. Compost is an excellent source of organic matter to add to your garden or potted plants. It helps improve soil structure which contributes to good aeration and moisture-holding capacity. Compost is also a source of plant nutrients.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TRAINING EVENT for lay leaders and clergy

→ **April 2 at All Saint's Church, Birmingham**

Featuring: The Rev'd Susan Richardson., Rector of Grace- St. Pauls's Church in
Mercerville, NJ

MerLynne Byrne, Minister of Communications at St. Stephens' Church, Edina, MN

Workshops will be facilitated by:

Bishop Parsley, Dave Drachlis, Pat Wingo, Carolyn Foster, Bentley Manning. Rob Morpeth,

NATIVITY Teachers, ECW, Young Adult Ministry, Wardens, and Vestry are encouraged to attend.

Registration brochures are available in the church office or contact Sarah Sartain 205-715-2060.

Event Fee is \$25 includes lunch. CONTACT NATIVITY CHURCH OFFICE for brochure .

NATIVITY CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

SUNDAY MORNING CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES 10:00 a.m. (aka Church School)

The Seekers' Class

Bibb Chapel

The Zimmerman Bible Study Class

Joffrion Library

Prayer for Us All

Ridley Hall

March 20, The Rector will give a presentation on his upcoming Sabbatical "The Sabbath as Prayer."

NEW SERIES to begin—Easter Classes March 27, April 3 and April 10, Lynne Berry, Jeannie Robison, and Walther Thames will help us search out the deeper meanings of the events of Holy Week and Easter using beautiful works of art and poetry.

The Heartbeat of God book by Presiding Bishop Schori

Joffrion 2 West

THE SOUL AND RELATIONSHIPS: *Dancing with Rumi on the Mystic Path*

Choir Room

Youth Christian Formation Classes

Grades 7-8

Ridley 2nd Floor

Grades 9-12

Joffrion 3rd Floor

Children's Christian Formation Classes

Nursery

Joffrion 1st Floor

Godly Play (3 and 4 year olds)

Angel Lane

WoRM (K-Grade 4)

Angel Lane

Club 56 (Grades 5 & 6)

Ridley 2nd Floor

WEEKDAY MORNING & EVENING CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

MONDAY

Young Adult Small Group

7:00 p.m.

Contact Brad Landry

TUESDAY

"The Heart of Lent" with The Rev'd King Oehmig , March 22, March 29, and April 5

Bibb Chapel

Centering Prayer

5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Bibb Chapel

WEDNESDAY

• Men's Bible Study led by Father Anderson

7:15 a.m.

Library

• The Good Book Women's Bible Study

1:00 p.m.

Library

• Nights at Nativity during Lent*

5:15 p.m. dinner (Reservations by noon each Tuesday)

5:30 p.m. Nursery opens (Reservations Only)

6:00 p.m. Lenten Speaker Series

Ridley Hall

THURSDAY

• Reflections Bible Study*

9:30 a.m. (nursery by reservations)

Joffrion 2 East

• Centering Prayer

12:00 noon—12:45 p.m.

Bibb Chapel

PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION or RESERVATIONS OR 256-533-2455

Five seniors will be receiving Senior Acolyte crosses this Sunday March 20 at the 11:00 service:

Ian Briggs, Hutson Chilton, Kachi Eziebe, Dylan Joffrion, Drew McDonald

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE APRIL 2011

Acolytes may be scheduled more than once this month due to the many services during Holy Week. If you are unable to serve at your time, please arrange for a sub, then let us know who will be filling in for you. Thank you for being a part of this important ministry at Church of the Nativity!

April 3

8:45

C I Braudaway, H Chilton
T M Walker, Anna Chilton
T J Chilton, Kate Noble Hall
S Rosie Chilton
AS Maria Caprio

11:00

C Will Ellison
T Emily Ellison, Alexander Young
S Watson, Powell Stockton
S Elizabeth Moody
AS Shep O'Neal

Saturday, April 23 Easter Vigil 7:30 P.M.

**** Arrive 25 min early for instruction**

C Drew McDonald, Will Ellison
T Emily Ellison
T Foard Naumann
S Nancy Kate Baugher
AS Paul Naumann
Thurifer: Reece Baugher

April 10

8:45

C Andrew Dunn
T J Anglin, W Hunter
T A Starnes, N Luther
S Harrison Hunter
AS Spencer Anglin

11:00

C D Joffrion, R Quillen
T J Cozby, R Joffrion
T Hanly Ward, C Nelson
S Patrick Quillen
AS Elise Nelson

Thursday April 21 Maunday Thursday 7:00 P.M.

**** Arrive 20 min early for instruction**

C R Quillen
T Alexander Young
T Jordan Cozby
S Elizabeth Moody
AS Carter McDonald
Thurifer: P Quillen

April 17th Palm Sunday

****Arrive 20 min early for instruction**

8:45

C Sabol Rogers, Tripp Ford
T P Ford, C Rogers
T Steuart Evans, C Bates
S Tindall Morring
AS SG Moore

11:00

C Bird Sherrill
T Foster Shrout, J Grelier
T J Laney, A Taylor
S Julie DiFranco
AS Trace Markwalter

Sunday April 24 Easter Sunday

**** Arrive 20 min early for instruction**

8:45

C Noelle Carter, M Sharp
T HB Bryant, C Bates
T T King, G Sharp
S Laurel Sharp
AS SG Moored
Banners: Cat Kelly, N Luther,
KN Hall

11:00

C R Quillen, H Chilton
T K Schneider, Anna Chilton
T J Chilton, Powell Stockton
S Mary Margaret Ragland
AS Julie DiFranco
Thurifer: Kachi Eziebe
Banners: SL Miller, S Watson,
J Cozby

Wednesday April 20 Stations of the Cross

6:00 P.M.

C Walker Purvis T Susan Purvis T Karsten Correale

CHILDREN'S CORNER

LENT FOR CHILDREN - Wednesdays Nights During Lent, 6:00 -7:00 p.m. in the WoRM

Come enjoy our wonderful lineup of adult speakers while your children enjoy a very meaningful Lenten program down in the WoRM. Reservations are only required if your family plans to eat dinner together in Ridley Hall. Our choir children will continue to enjoy their pizza dinner together before joining the rest of the group downstairs for our Lenten program. We hope to see all of you there! **Remember to call the church for dinner reservations!**

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School TODAY!

July 12, 13 & 14, 9:00 am -12:00 pm

Your Kid's Council & Christian Formation Team is thrilled to announce our Vacation Bible School theme for this year. "Shake it Up" will be a fun exploration of how the Bible is the most wonderful "cookbook" of all! We will focus heavily on the importance of our family table and how we should all take time to join together their regularly. Imagine the fun we will have as our days are jam packed with recipes, fun crafts, food experiments, great music and exciting games!

Registration will begin very soon, so be on the lookout for an email from the children's formation team. We will have a very unique wrap up party on Thursday, July 14 @ 5:30pm.

If you are not on our children's email distribution and would like to be added, please email madeline.mullins@gmail.com today! For more information regarding Children's Christian Formation please contact Elizabeth Foster or Madeline Mullins, 256-533-2455.



The Heart of Lent

Something New!

“Revival of the Soul”

Noontime Talks in the Chapel

12:05 - 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 22

Tuesday, March 29

Tuesday, April 5



Guest Speaker, The Rev King Oehmig

Editor, Synthesis Preaching Journal

Chattanooga, TN

Box Lunch in Ridley Hall 12:30

Q & A with the Speaker 12:45

Lunch Reservation deadline noon the Monday before

Box Lunch ~ \$8.00 per person

OH, The Places We Will Go During Lent

A children's midweek Lenten Program designed around the Dr. Seuss series of books

Lent is our season. We're off to Great Places! We don't know which way, but the Holy Spirit will lead us we are here to say!

WHEN: Each Wednesday during Lent from 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m

Dinner will be served by reservation from 5:15—6:00 p.m. Call 256-533-2455 for reservations. Parents are expected to participate in one of the classes being offered for adults while your child is in class. Please do not leave the campus. Thank you.

WHERE: The WoRM

KIDS WE'RE GOING TO MOVE MOUNTAINS!

NIGHTS AT NATIVITY LENTEN SERIES WEDNESDAYS 2011

Dinner* is served beginning at 5:15 p.m.

Lenten Speaker will begin at 6:00 p.m.

***Nursery opens at 5:30 p.m. for reservations only**

Call 256-533-2455 for dinner and nursery reservations by noon each Tuesday

March 16, The Rev. Geoffrey Hoare

The Rev. Geoffrey Hoare is rector of All Saints' Episcopal Church in Atlanta, GA. A native of England, he came to America as a Morehead Scholar at the University of North Carolina in 1976. After taking an additional degree from Cambridge University, where he is a member of Magdalene College, he returned to the USA and to the Yale Divinity School together with its Episcopal component, the Berkeley Divinity School. Geoffrey has served church and community in a number of capacities — the Board of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale and he currently serves as an instructor in the contextual education program of the Candler School of Theology at Emory University.

March 23, The Rev. Betsy Jennings Powell

The Rev. Betsy Powell has served as Associate Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Selma since January 2010, where she and her husband have the good fortune to serve as clergy on the same staff. Prior to coming to St. Paul's, Betsy served as curate at St. Simon's on the Sound Episcopal Church, Ft. Walton Beach, FL and rector of St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church, Navarre, FL. She received an M.D. degree in 1976 from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, completing her pediatrics residency and fellowship training over the next five years. She practiced pediatrics for twenty years prior to attending seminary at The General Theological Seminary in NYC. In addition to her parish and community involvement, she has participated in several mission trips to Central America over the years.

March 30, The Rev. Ben King

The Rev. Dr. Benjamin King became Assistant Professor of Church History at the School of Theology, Sewanee in the fall of 2009 and Director of the School's Advanced Degrees Program in the fall of 2010. Born in Brighton, on the south coast of England, in 1974, Ben went to Cambridge University to study history and then to seminary there to study theology. He was raised in the Church of England. While serving as an assistant in a parish in Boston, Mass., he attained a Master's in Theology at Harvard Divinity School. From the fall of 2005, Ben was Episcopal Chaplain at Harvard University, where he also taught at Harvard Divinity School. His first book, *Newman and the Alexandrian Fathers*, just won a 2011 Templeton Award for Theological Promise.

April 6, The Rev. Margaret Marshall

The Rev. Margaret Marshall is an Episcopal priest from Chattanooga and a graduate of the University of the South. She has served in parish ministry and was the founder and executive director of The Sanctuary in Chattanooga, TN. She is the Chattanooga coordinator for Contemplative Outreach and leads Centering Prayer workshops, retreats, and weekly groups. She is a regular presenter of retreats at St. Mary's Sewanee. Margaret provides pastoral marriage preparation for couples and spiritual direction for individuals. She is a Master Gardener and passionate about her family, garden, cooking, photography, travel and silence!

April 13, The Rev. Paul C. Elliott

The Rev. Paul Elliott was baptized and confirmed at Nativity. He earned a Master of Divinity degree at The General Theological Seminary in New York City. He was sponsored by All Saints' Episcopal Church in Atlanta and was ordained priest in 1996. His first assignment was as Associate Rector and chaplain to the school St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church located in northeast Atlanta. While at St. Martin's, he began studies at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, working toward a doctorate in pastoral counseling. In 2003 he became a full-time counselor at the Care and Counseling Center of Georgia. In 2007 Father Elliott was called to be the Rector of St. Andrew's in the Pine Episcopal Church in Peachtree City, GA.

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, April 4.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev'd Dr. Andy Anderson
Rector

The Rev'd Mary Anne Akin
Associate

The Rev'd Brad Landry
Associate

The Rev'd Mary E. Groff
Deacon

Suzanne Purtee
Organist/Choirmaster

Lane Tutt
Adult Christian Formation

Minda Alexander

Bartlee Linton

Interim 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 Gadomski

Worship & Ministry Assistant

Linda Wheeler

Assistant to the Rector

Communication/Publication Admin

Prentice White

Verger/Wedding Coordinator

Vestry

Bland Warren

Senior Warden

Pat Goodson

Junior Warden

Russ Alexander

Treasurer

Donna Joffrion

Clerk

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