

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

March 2, 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.

The Rich Dirt and Dust of Lent

The warmer weather these past ten days brings hopes of spring, especially with daffodils and flowering trees bursting in bloom. The gardeners among us are outside digging in the dirt, preparing the ground for later planting more flowers, vegetables and herbs, or just to maintain the landscape around.

I am reminded of the first gardener, God, preparing the garden of creation. In Genesis 2 we read, *In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground...then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.*

Take note that the phrase, “the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground” gives us the name Adam, the Hebrew word for man. Perhaps more interesting is that the original Hebrew for this phrase is **adam adamah**—**adamah** the Hebrew word for dust of the ground. *The Lord God formed adam adamah.* But **adamah** is not just any old dust and dirt—the translation of this word refers to the finest arable soil—soil rich in nutrients and oxygen. The initial biblical word for human beings, **adam**, is interwoven with the word for rich and productive soil, **adamah**.

So, what’s growing in the rich soil of your life? In one week, Lent begins. On Ash Wednesday we come to church and have ashes created from the palms of last Palm Sunday smeared on our foreheads with these words, “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” We are dust. But not just any old dust and dirt. “God just don’t make any junk,” one southern preacher said once. We are the finest, richest arable soil there is.

Lent calls us to focus on our mortality, and on our sins and the call to repentance. This Lent, expand your concept of that dust placed upon you. Remember that God created you from the finest and richest matter of creation; you are the glory of God’s master gardening skills. And although through our sins and selfishness and just plain lack of attention, our lives don’t produce the lush growth and beautiful blossoms God hopes we will produce, at the beginning of Lent, we are reminded of who we really are. Our lives are rich and potent, fecund and generative. The foundation is present. Be who you are in creation and redeemed in Christ Jesus.

This Lent, may we remember this and allow God’s garden to flourish and blossom in our lives. But just like the landscape of our lawns and gardens, it will take deliberate work. So in this last week of the longest season after the Epiphany our liturgical calendar gives, start digging in the soil of your lives. The Church invites you to a Holy Lent, a season of holy preparation of the rich soil that your life is. Nativity offers many ways for you to work in this soil. Clear your calendars, make God’s garden blooming from the rich soil of your life a priority. ***Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.***

Andy +



CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY,
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

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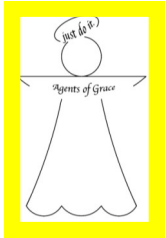


Remember: This Sunday March 6 is HAP SUNDAY. The following items are needed to meet client needs by Huntsville Assistance Program:
Peanut butter and jelly, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, macaroni and cheese, toilet paper, diapers (all sizes)

Support Group, *Surviving Suicide of a Loved One*, to be offered at Nativity by The Vine Pastoral Counseling Center beginning March 7.

Coping after a suicide can be difficult because of the complicated emotions. Our mission with this group is to offer encouragement and support to people who are grieving after the tragic loss of a loved one. We will share our struggles, utilize educational resources, share coping strategies, consider biblical texts and be led in prayer. We will utilize our faith to bear one another's burdens as we seek healing.

The group will begin Monday, March 7 from 11:45-1:00 in the Banister Room at The Church of the Nativity and will continue every first Monday of the month after that in the same location. The group will be led by Dr. Amanda Ragland of The Vine and by Jane Troup, volunteer and member of Church of the Nativity. Dr. Ragland is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Certified Pastoral Counselor. For more information, please contact Amanda Ragland at 256-461-8580, vine-ministry@vinepcc.com or Jane Troup at 256-508-8801.



Tutors Needed for Ridgecrest Elementary Schools

The Tutor Coordinator at Ridgecrest Elementary is looking for tutors to help 5th grade students become proficient in math skills. You don't need to be a math whiz, but we are hoping that some people involved in IMS would consider donating their time by tutoring 5th graders.

Tutors are requested to donate only ONE HOUR a week. Volunteers tutor the same child week after week. The hope is that this one on one interaction is just what the students need! Tutors are needed every day of the week from 9:30-10:30 to help students master their multiplication tables.

Tutoring is done by using a very simple computer program called Math Plus. It's really easy and only takes about 5 minutes to learn how to use.

Ridgecrest Elementary is on Cerro Vista Drive off Drake Avenue. Tutoring at other Title 1 Elementary Schools is also available. If interested, contact Christy Noren-Hentz (256) 684-1287 or email cnorenhentz@gmail.com

Please, if you can give of your time and talents your help would be appreciated. **Just do it.**

Thank you, Michael Shipley, Arch Agent MichaelShipley@aol.com 256-325-1522

MARCH YOUNG PARENT MIXERS is scheduled for March 18, 7:00 p.m.

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 (efoster@nativity-hsv.org)



Habitat for Humanity® It is that time again. The buds are coming out on our Bradford Pears and slabs are being poured for our spring build.

Habitat will be building five new houses this spring. Our group will build a 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath house at 6333 Banks Road for the High family. DeJunna High grew up in Huntsville for the first half of her life, before moving to Detroit for 8 years. Since returning to Huntsville she has begun working at Kmart and is looking to add a second job in the coming weeks. DeJunna and her two-year old daughter joined the Habitat program in July of 2010. Ms. High is a member of Eagles Nest Ministry where she serves in several positions, including working with under privileged girls in the community.

This year our group will include Church of the Nativity Episcopal, First Christian, St. John's AME, St. Mathew's Episcopal; First Presbyterian, Aldersgate Methodist, United Church Of Huntsville, & Covenant Presbyterian. We should be blessed with plenty of help. Please contact Bill Giardini 265-654-5139 for scheduling, more information.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

The Mustard Seed in 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.



AMY NEIL

Throughout the last four years, many of you have enjoyed the inviting environs of the Mustard Seed shop, located in the church office building. Under the guidance of its capable owners, Catti Clanton and Blair Glenn, the shop has offered an expansive selection of books and gifts within its inspiring and peaceful atmosphere. As the owners now undertake a new 'leg' in life's relay, I am trailing quickly behind them to grasp the baton!

It is my intention to continue Catti and Blair's good work in providing products and services that are inspired by the spirit, that are expressions of the spirit, and that illustrate the spirit's permeation throughout our daily life and work. Within this mission, I will seek to provide a mutually beneficial venture for the local community and for the church – one that supports literature, visual arts, and music of both local and global artists. I will endeavor to provide a space where you may peruse products to find your own inspiration, and to find books and gifts that will help you convey a meaningful message to others. I will talk with those of you involved with specific church activities, to determine ways in which the shop can dovetail with your efforts.

As for me – I recently completed a 3-year 'marathon' in south Florida, as a medical writer specializing in producing patient education materials, and recently decided to join my mother (Diana Neil) and sister and brother-in-law (Lisa & Brian Andrews) in Huntsville. Like many in this neck of the woods, I completed my undergraduate work at Sewanee and, being an eternal student, have undertaken a few post-graduate degrees since then.

I will transition the shop throughout March and April, and finally will grasp the baton in my own two (and most likely quite sweaty) hands on May 5. I hope to provide an atmosphere of community spirit and inspiration within its walls, and I hope you also will consider it your regular 'stopping place.'

So, please, stop by. Have a chat. Pass along any suggestions and let me know what you need or if there's something I can research for you.

I look forward to meeting all of you!

Give up *The Steeple* for Lent

We are not suggesting that you stay in the dark about the events happening at Nativity but are asking you to give up the printed copy of *The Steeple*. *The Steeple* will be e-mailed to you and is available on the website nativity-hsv.org) in full color. If you do not have access to electronic communication you can continue to receive your *Steeple* in the mail but you will need to fill out the form below and mail back to the church office. We will discontinue routine mailing of *The Steeple* after Ash Wednesday, March 9. So Give up *The Steeple* for Lent, help us cut costs and do your part for the environment.

Please complete this form and mail to:
Church of the Nativity; Attention: Communications
208 Eustis Ave; Huntsville, AL 35801

YES, please continue to send *The Steeple* via postal service:

YOUR NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PRAYER LIST

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Lane Mickle, Nancy Aldenderfer, Kit Carlton, Mary Brink, Steve Gruman, Mary Brink, Charlotte Laxson, Kingslea De Roode Merkel, Terry Hodge, Jack Wilson, Steve Gruman, 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:

Dr. Lewis McCurdy, Jr., parishioner
Nick Passino
Barbara Rosenberg, sister of Charles Yarn
Marie Southworth, parishioner

We pray for our parishioners:

- attending Cursillo 176 at Camp McDowell March 3-6: Brad Landry (pilgrim); Emily and Robert Rodgers (staff); Elaine and Richard Hamner (staff)
- attending Happening 58 at Christ Church, Episcopal in Tuscaloosa March 4—6; Maggie Clanton and Sabol Rodgers

We give thanks for the birthdays of our children:

3/5 Caroline Abney
3/6 Grace Kelly
3/7 Mary Maddox Creech
3/8 Catherine Hendricks
3/11 Leighton Luther
3/12 Foard Naumann, Patton Park, Riley Kamelchuk
3/14 Riley Alexander, Adalayda Smith
3/16 Timmy Curran
3/19 Edward Aboudonia
3/20 John Kelly

AN RELEVANT QUOTE:

The 5th century Saint Paulinus wrote, *We have dared to attempt our work of perfection, relying not on our own deeds and strength but on the power and mercy of God. Since He is almighty, He can complete in us the work of His perfection. When He has deigned to lay the foundation and to begin the first scaffolding, He can construct it according to His measurements and complete it by roofing it.*

FINANCIAL CORNER

2011 Pledges by March 1, 2011

\$ 500 or <	46
\$501 - \$999.99	49
\$1,000 - \$2,999.99	179
\$3,000 - \$4,999.99	77
\$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	422
Total Dollar Amount of Pledges	\$1,243,534.26
Average Pledge	\$2,946.76

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

The Commission on Spirituality Presents: "The Mystery of Faith"

and invites you to attend a quiet, reflective day at St. Mary's-on-the-Highland's Episcopal Church in Birmingham during the holy season of Lent.

Spend the day with The Rt. Rev. Henry Parsley, Episcopal Bishop of Alabama on Saturday, APRIL 9, 2011; 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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

The Huntsville Assococ. for Pastoral Care offer the following:

"God, Where Are You? Caring for the Spiritually Distressed," Saturday, April 2, 9:00-12:00, First Baptist Church, Room 118, 600 Governor's Dr., Huntsville. Presenters to be announced.

* * * * *

"Going through Grief: A Guide to Understanding, Surviving and Supporting the Grief Process" St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 200 Longwood Dr., Huntsville. March 30, April 6 & 13, 7:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall. Presenter: The Rev. Carl Malm, Center for Loss, Grief and Change.

* * * * *

Pastoral Care Day

"The Realities of Ministry in the 21st Century." Presenter: Dr. Bill Wilson, President, The Center for Congregational Health, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Topics to be covered: "What Church Members Wish Their Pastors Knew," "Healthy Ministry in Times of High Anxiety," "What Pastors Wish Their Church Members Knew." Thursday, April 28, 7:30 am – 1:00 pm. Location and cost to be announced.

ALTAR FLOWERS 2011 DEDICATION FORM

If you are interested in dedicating **Altar flowers for a specific Sunday in 2011**, please complete and mail this form with your check made out to "Flower Guild" and mail 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.

2011 Altar Flower Order Form

The following dates are available: March 27 and May 29

Altar Flowers are \$40 or \$20 for shared dedications

Date desired _____

Your Name _____

Phone # _____

Would you share a dedication? _____ Do you wish to have your name listed in the bulletin? _____

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

All dedications read "To the glory of God and..."

in loving memory of or in thanksgiving for or in celebration of...

Name for this altar flower dedication: _____

STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION TIP

Composting Part 2

A REVIEW OF COMPOSTING DETAILS:

Composting turns household wastes into valuable fertilizer and soil organic matter.

This dark, crumbly, earthy-smelling stuff works wonders on all kinds of soil and provides vital nutrients to help plants grow and look better. If you have a garden, a lawn, trees, shrubs, or even planter boxes, or do container gardening, **you have a use for compost.**

Getting Started:

Decomposing organisms consist of bacteria, fungi, and larger organisms such as worms, sow bugs, and numerous others.

Decomposing organisms need four key elements to thrive: **nitrogen, carbon, moisture, and oxygen**. For best results, mix materials high in nitrogen (such as clover, fresh grass clippings, and livestock manure) and those high in carbon (such as dried leaves and twigs). If there is not a good supply of nitrogen-rich material, a handful of general lawn fertilizer will help the nitrogen-carbon ratio.

Moisture is provided by rain, but you may need to water or cover the pile to keep it damp. Be careful not to saturate the pile. Turning or mixing the pile provides oxygen. NOTE: Frequent turning yields faster decomposition.

Many materials can be added to a compost pile, including leaves, grass clippings, straw, woody brush, vegetable and fruit scraps, coffee grounds, livestock manure, and sawdust. **Do not use** diseased plants, or meat scraps or dairy products which may attract animals, or dog or cat manure, which can carry disease.

Composting can be as simple as involved as you would like, and depends on how much yard waste you have, how fast you want results, and the effort you are willing to invest.

There are two general methods of composting: Cold, or Slow, Composting or Hot Composting. In this issue, we'll talk about "Cold" or "Slow" composting.

Cold, or passive, composting uses the same type of ingredients as hot composting and requires less effort from the gardener. Cold composting works well if you are short on time to tend the compost pile, or have little yard waste, and/or are not in a hurry to use the compost.

• With cold composting, you can just pile the grass clippings and dry leaves on the ground or in a bin. Add yard waste as it accumulates. Shredding or chopping the material speeds up the process. To easily shred, run your lawn mower over small piles of weeds and trimmings..

• Also, you can collect your kitchen waste in a small container or bucket which has a tight-fitting lid - or put vegetable scraps in a bag in the freezer - and when you have enough, put them in the compost. Or, you can just collect scraps during the day and take them to the compost pile each evening.

• In addition to the ingredients mentioned above, any of these items may be added to a compost pile: tea bags, dry goods (crackers, flour, spices), eggshells, hair, nutshells, pasta (cooked or uncooked), seaweed, shredded paper/newspaper.

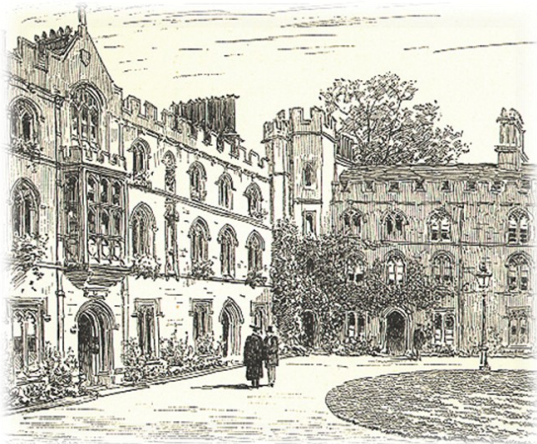
And, if you want to give the mix a little boost, one excellent and free additive is simply a shovel full of good garden soil. The soil is full of microbes that are eager to devour the goodies in your compost pile.

Keep weeds and diseased plants out of the mix since the temperatures reached with cold composting may not be high enough to kill the weed seeds or disease-causing organisms.

Diseased plant material can spread disease back into the garden later when you use the compost.

Cold composting requires very little or no maintenance, but it will take several months for the pile to decompose.

Next time: Hot Composting



Evensong

March 13, 2011 5:00 pm

Music by Stanford, Josquin, Drinkell, and Dilecamp

The Nativity Choir
Suzanne Purtee, Choirmaster
Dr. Jeff McLelland, Guest Organist

NATIVITY CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

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

The Seekers' Class

Bibb Chapel

Clergy and lay members of our parish will be leading these classes designed to include church history, our prayer book and hymnal, our worship practices and etiquette (like when to kneel or bow or make the sign of the cross!), and our views about scripture and the sacraments. Classes will also describe the many varieties of ministry opportunities available in the parish.

The Zimmerman Bible Study Class

Joffrion Library

Join us each week as we explore the Gospel according to Mark. The Zimmerman Class has been a Sunday morning Bible Study since 1947, when it was first established by Anna Zimmerman. The class is led by a diverse teaching team.

Prayer for Us All

Ridley Hall

"Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Jesus Christ."

Presenters: February 20, Fran McKendree; February 27, Lisa and Frank Caprio, March 6, John Turner; March 13, Haiti Medical Mission Team; March 20, Andy Anderson (The Sabbath as Prayer)

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 Re'vd 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

CHILDREN'S CORNER

LENT FOR CHILDREN

- **Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras Celebration**

March 8, 6:00 pm - Ridley Hall

Join us for a night of cajun fun for everyone in the family! The night will be complete with delicious cajun food (pizza for the kids!), crafts, Charlie Lyles Band & our ever popular children's parade! Make your reservations early because this one fills up quickly. (256-533-2455)

Ash Wednesday - Children's Style

March 9, 6:00 pm - Bibb Chapel

Bring your whole family to church on Ash Wednesday as we begin our Lenten journey for 2011. We will offer a sensory filled children's service in Bibb Chapel in conjunction with the adult service. The children's service is complete with the imposition of ashes and Eucharist - it's just kid's style! A nursery will be available as well, so there's no excuse for missing out on a meaningful way to start out your Lenten season. No reservations are required - just show up!!

- **Wednesdays Nights During Lent**

6:00 -7:00 pm 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!

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. Mark your calendars NOW!

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.

Greetings from St. Mary's Sewanee,

On behalf of the St. Mary's Sewanee Programs Committee, I write to share information on an upcoming March retreat at our center:

Retreat: Healing Ourselves, Our Relationships, Our World

Presenters: The Reverend Dr. Gene B. Manning, Assistant Rector at Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville
Nontombi Naomi Tutu , speaker, workshop leader, and an activist for human rights

Dates: March 11-13, 2011 (Friday 6 PM until Sunday 11 AM)

Place: St. Mary's Sewanee, Sewanee, TN

Fees: Residential: \$275 Commuter: \$175

For more information:

Call: 800-728-1659 or 931-598-5342

Web site: www.stmaryssewanee.org

E-mail: stmaryssewanee@bellsouth.net

I am looking forward to seeing you soon,
Jean Jackson Hastings

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

MARCH 9

7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, Bibb Chapel

12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, Bibb Chapel

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, Adults and Teens in Church

6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, Children in Bibb Chapel

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

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, March 14.

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 Gadoski

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

Live Music by
The Charlie Lyle Band

Choir Fundraiser

Mardi Gras-Cajun Night



Shrove Tuesday
March 8,
6:00 p.m.

Menu

Jambalaya
Salad, French Bread
Bread Pudding
Children: Pizza and
Mardi Gras Cake

Adults \$12.00

Children 5-15: \$5.00

Family of 5+: \$30.00

Reservations: 533-2455

**Food & Fun
for the whole
Family!**