

# THE STEEPLE

## The Church of the Nativity

June 1, 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.*

### SUMMER CHANGES

I hope this issue of The Steeple finds all of the Nativity family easing into and enjoying the summer. I know that in our family, it always seems like May is a fast and furious month and that June will bring changes to a more relaxed and calm pace. I think it is safe to say that Nativity has had quite a month of May and we as a Parish family are ready to slow down a little for summer. Big changes are in store this summer.

We began this past Sunday with our church being closed for the first time. The first service in Ridley Hall is behind us. Though it is quite a change, worshipping together outside of our normal setting and routines will give us a new perspective. We will continue holding services in Ridley Hall until the roof and interior renovations are complete this fall. Let's embrace this unique time together.

On Sunday evening I had a nice conversation with Father Anderson. He began his sabbatical shortly afterwards. It is a richly deserved sabbatical. I let him know that we at Nativity wish him the best during his Sabbath time this summer. He is excited about his itinerary that includes a wonderful mix of spiritual renewal as well as family time, rest and vacation. Safe travels and Godspeed to Andy, Tippy, Case and Sally. I encourage everyone to follow Andy's blog for updates on his travels and experiences.

Father Anderson's sabbatical will provide a healthy change for us at Nativity. Our Clergy, Administrative Staff, Programming Staff, Vestry, and Parishioners will all be tasked with new responsibilities. Some will be a challenge, but most are very exciting and will allow us grow and learn new things about ourselves. We have very detailed plans but more importantly outstanding clergy and staff to lead us. I look forward to working with each of them in their expanded roles.

Another exciting change this summer is our new Greene Street Market at Nativity. Marilyn Evans and her team have really started the market with a bang. Their efforts have produced a great event the last two Thursday nights. This will continue throughout the summer and into the fall. As we change into summer, please plan to attend the market on Thursday evenings.

As a Diocese we are moving towards a big change this summer with the election of our new bishop. I encourage all parishioners to study the four candidates posted on the diocesan website. Nativity's delegates (Bland Warren, Pat Goodson, David Collette, Renee Elliott, Freya Neely, Mac Phillips, Ronnie Rogers, and Rusty Stephenson) and alternates (Alyce Smith, Madeline Mullins, Debbie Collette, Loch Neely, and Gail Rogers) will attend the Walkabout on June 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke's in Birmingham. The Walkabout is open to everyone, so please plan to attend. The delegates want and need to hear from you before the election on July 16<sup>th</sup>. This is our new bishop for our Diocese. It is not too late so get involved in the process.

This summer is an exciting and vibrant time at Nativity. I look forward to worshipping together and celebrating our vibrancy, growth and change.



Bland Warren  
Senior Warden



CHURCH  
OF THE  
NATIVITY,  
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

### SUMMER WORSHIP TIMES

**SUNDAY:**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Holy Eucharist  
Rite I**

**(Bibb Chapel)  
and**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Holy Eucharist  
Rite II**

**(Ridley Hall)**

**This service offers  
Children's Chapel  
and Nursery**

**THURSDAY:**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Holy Eucharist  
Rite II**

**(Bibb Chapel)**

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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### Nativity Parishioner to be Member of Haiti Mission Team June 6-10

Will Taylor, Nativity parishioner who is active on the Outreach Committee and with Young Adult Ministry, heads to Haiti Monday June 6. He is part of a Diocesan Team that includes Bishop Kee Sloan and Dave Drachlis, Diocesan Communications Director. The purpose of the mission is two-fold: Medical and Fact-finding. The group of eight will be involved in various tasks through the week. Their intent is to return with information of what is needed at this time and how diocesan parishes can respond. Will represents the entire parish but specifically the Young Adults who have raised funds for Haiti and are hopeful to be integral in a building project. Please keep the Mission Team in your prayers during their travels.

### Stormy Day Fund for Tornado Adopted Family

The Lockhart-Yarborough Road area of Harvest experienced complete devastation during the April tornados. Through the Harvest Youth Center forty-one families will be adopted by churches. Each family completely lost their home and all belongings. **The Call for Help is that we will partner with a family for three months:** July, August and September – assisting them in many ways through the initial months of recovery. The basic commitment of \$3600 for one family will be made and covered by the Nativity Outreach 2011 Contingency Fund. Past this point we need each of you to help in various ways. When we receive details about the family's specific needs, we will inform you through The Steeple, our website and word of mouth. And, we can consider extending the partnership another three months if we receive contributions that would cover \$1200 per month.

To prepare for this special relationship we are beginning a **"Stormy Day Fund."** This Fund will allow us to have monies on hand to purchase necessary big need items and put some aside for back-to-school needs. Perhaps we could treat the family to a day at Point Mallard so that the children (and mother!) can have a needed change of scenery and be treated to a fun time.



Please watch for the Big Glass Jar carried by someone with the "Storm Hat" beginning Sunday June 5.

If you want to contribute by mail, make your check to Church of the Nativity – marked *Tornado Fund*.

Call Rev. Mary Anne Akin (256-533-2455) if you have furniture or appliances that you can donate.

More details to come after June 15!

### SCHEDULE TO COMPLETION:

**June 2, 4** Finish baseboards, install counter tops, closet hardware, window blinds, bathroom accessories, landscape (Bring rakes and gloves)

**June 7, 9, 11** Cover exposed wood on outside, touch up paint, clean windows

**June 14, 16, 18** Clean and wax floors, Work punch list,

**DEDICATION CEREMONY:** Saturday, June 18

For directions or information contact: Bill Giardini at [giardiniw@bellsouth.net](mailto:giardiniw@bellsouth.net)



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. Look for the gray vestry nametags:

Bland Warren, Senior Warden  
Donna Joffrion, Clerk/Pastoral Care  
Daniel Suggs, Children's Formation  
Rusty Stephenson, Finance Chair  
Michael McClung, Parish Life  
Sally Ann Culver, Worship & Music

Pat Goodson, Junior Warden  
Anne Pollard, Adults & Spirituality  
Ed Vaughn, Communications  
Don Wheeler, Newcomers/Welcomes  
Joseph Ezeibe, Reconciliation  
Jane Brocato, Youth Formation  
Pattie Cline, Special Outreach & Diocese

Russ Alexander, Treasurer  
Brad Hall, Building/Grounds  
Mac Phillips, Long Range  
Wayne Laney, Outreach  
Lou Durnya, Stewardship  
Dylan Joffrion, Youth Rep

## Summer Concert on the Lawn

The Chip Gulboro Band will play on the Bibb Chapel Lawn Huntsville on Sunday, June 12th, at 6 pm.

*The Chip Gulbro Band play swing, straight ahead, and Latin jazz.*

Last year's Summer Concerts were well received. Bring your lawn chair, personal beverages & snacks, or you may want to bring a picnic supper. Invite a friend, out of town visitors, and your neighbors to enjoy an evening of sunset and music with your friends at Nativity!



## Just Stuff It, Take 2

Our last First Stop homeless meal-pack stuffing event was totaled by the tornados, so we are rescheduling for Sunday, June 26, after the 10 o'clock service. We'll do it in the library, as we did last time. Come one, come all and demonstrate how our finely-honed teamwork Just Does It at Nativity!

Bill Goodson, First Stop volunteer

## just do it...Agents of Grace

Greetings to all from your Just Do It Arch Agent Kathy Hill,

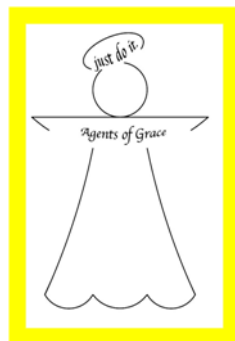
Even though it is summer we have many requests for volunteers from our community agents so please continue to JUST DO IT over the summer!

Oscar Mason Library branch needs helpers for their summer reading program. This branch serves the Mason Court housing project and the summer reading program helps the students improve their reading skills over the summer.

Habitat for Humanity is finishing up their house and can still use volunteers for touch up and cleaning.

The Greene Street Market is up and running with great success and can use more volunteers.

To volunteer for any of these projects simply email: [JustDolt@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:JustDolt@nativity-hsv.org) and we will respond with more info and connect you with the community agent in charge. We can all **JustDolt** over summer too!



## Sunday on Thursday—continues each week 6:00 p.m. in Bibb Chapel

Can't get to Church this Sunday, going out of town, other commitments preventing you from getting to church on Sunday? We began a service last summer for those with out-of-town commitments and we continue to offer a worship opportunity each Thursday. 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.



## Vacation Bible School - July 12, 13, 14

**9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon**

**Wrap-up party Thursday, July 14, 6:00 p.m.**



# Building the Church Within

Chasing St. Francis, Centering Prayer, Italy, The Episcopal Church, Tuscan Cooking, the Catechumenate, Sewanee, Gardening, Armenia, and thoughts on the spiritual journey...Building the church deep within our lives and souls happens in many ways and the foundation to building the Kingdom of God in Christ in our world.

## Want to follow Fr Andy and his journey?

You can... go to his blog [www.buildingthechurchwithin.blogspot.com](http://www.buildingthechurchwithin.blogspot.com) He has invited you to do so, "I hope you'll follow the blog and share the journey with me. I'll be posting thoughts, prayers, and pictures on a "not quite daily" basis. Deep peace of Christ to all."

### PRAYER LIST

#### We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Mary Hollingsworth, Bobbie Graham, Ralph Shuey, Those in recovery following the recent tornados, Scott Shelton, Gail Rogers, Evin Yadegar, Elsie Olsen, Angel Colin, Vernon Lucas, Joan Olson, Kit Carlton, Joy Gass, Eileen Sullivan, Donald Perry, Jack Wilson, Sara Welch, Emile Joffrion, Leigh Wahl, John, Nancy Kelly, Julie Kirk, Joan Bennett

#### We pray for our Military:

Afghanistan: Robert Sampson, Lourie Formby, John Orosz

#### We give thanks for the baptism of

Alexander Giraud Allbee, son of  
Sandy and Brian Allbee

#### We give thanks for the birthdays of our children:

6/12	Jack Copeland, Abby Ginn, Ella Duncan
6/13	Elise Ramsey, Annie Kate Lane
6/14	Nathan Linton, Alee Clayton, Katherine McCown
6/15	Kate Miller, Joshua Huskey, Ian Artrip

### **Walk-about to Meet the Nominees for Bishop of Alabama**

All are Welcome

**Saturday June 25**

St. Luke's Church, Birmingham

Registration 11:30 AM

Opening Large Group Session 12:30 PM

Small Group walk-about Sessions

1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

(No Lunch will be served at this meeting)

### **A prayer for the Election of a Bishop:**

Gracious God,

As our Diocese looks toward the election of a Bishop this summer, send down the comfort of your Holy Spirit upon the Church.

Lead us in our time of transition.

Let us seek your wisdom as we choose a bishop who will walk in your ways and draw our hearts to you.

Guide the members of the search process as they seek and discern your will.

In all our works, may we glorify your Name.

Amen.

**Handmade Crafts & Irish Tunes Await You!** It's time to grab a few days on your calendar for a summer experience at the Alabama Folk School. Our adult camps will inspire you and send you home feeling relaxed and renewed.

Join us June 21-24 for Craft Week and remember how good it feels to use your hands for a creative purpose. Or come July 22-24 for our second annual Irish Weekend —learn to dance in a set; accompany tunes in a variety of rhythms, including jigs, reels, and waltzes; explore the history of Irish fiddling; and unravel the secrets of illustrating those mysterious Celtic knots.

Please go online to register today, [www.campmcdowell.com/folkschool](http://www.campmcdowell.com/folkschool) or call 205-387-1806.

**Going to  
the Greene  
Street Market  
at Nativity?**

Drop in and visit **The Mustard Seed** for a refreshing drink and a cheese snack. We will be opened each Thursday from 4:00 until 8:00 p.m.

Other summer hours:  
Wednesdays: 10:00 — 3:00  
Sundays: 9:00 — 12:30



**Farmers' Market**

every thursday 4pm - 8pm  
may 19<sup>th</sup> - september 29<sup>th</sup>  
[www.greenestreetmarket.com](http://www.greenestreetmarket.com)

Locally grown fruits, vegetables,  
meats, breads, cheeses, honey,  
relish, & other confections.

This is a producer-only market so the farmers who grow the products will be on hand for you to meet and to answer any questions that you have.

Come to the market and bring your friends and neighbors. We will have music, cooking demonstrations, good food and lots of fun.

**HAP SUNDAY JUNE 5**

Please help provide: Canned Meat, Canned Fruit, Dried beans, Shelf Milk, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Spaghetti and Sauce, and Cereal. School is out and children may be on their own for the day so remember to provide a few extra treats for them, individually wrapped cakes, fruit drink mix, etc.

**STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION TIP**

**Dealing with your technotrash and e-waste**

Recycling paper, plastic and glass keeps getting easier, but technotrash – all the odds and ends and detritus of our electronic age—that's more difficult. I always seemed to have a box of random cords and cables, old VHS tapes, and broken MP3 players that I knew didn't belong in a landfill, but I couldn't put them in the recycling bin, either. So, the box just lived in my garage, trapped in recycling limbo.

So, what to do with the technotrash?

You can, of course, donate working technology to charities or sell it through a yard sale or online. There are plenty of programs that will find a home for functional – if no longer top-of-the-line – electronics like cell phones or monitors. But what if it's broken or obsolete?

- Return outdated/broken technology to the place you bought it. If you're replacing something, ask the store you're purchasing from if they'll take the old one. Staples, Radio Shack, Office Depot, and Best Buy all run recycling programs for everything from cell phones to printers. Some stores will charge a small fee for recycling, but other places will do it for free, or – even better! – reward you with gift cards or cash.
- Get a TechnoTrash Can. For \$36, GreenDisk.com will send you a cardboard "can" that will take up to 35 pounds of your technotrash: cables, printer cartridges, VCR and cassette tapes, CDs and jewel cases, floppy disks, and small electronics like MP3 players, PDAs, cell phones, and digital cameras. (Laptops, towers, monitors, and printers are recycled through a different GreenDisk program.) When the "can" is full, print a pre-paid label and call FedEx to pick it up. They recycle all the e-waste and even destroy any data that's still stored on it.
- Check some of the following sites for other ideas and solutions to your e-waste issues: DigitalTips.org, Gazelle.com, NextWorth.com, Earth911.com, BestBuyTradeIn.com. These sites will help you find responsible ways to recycle your technotrash (and maybe make a little money too!).

It takes a few extra minutes to find the right place to recycle your e-waste, but it's worth it.

Submitted by Kim Kerr

The Mental Health Center of Madison County is hosting a free workshop "The Labyrinth as a Tool for Stress Management" on Tuesday, June 14, 2011. The orientation starts at 12:00 noon and will last approximately one hour in the Mental Health Center's board room. Participants will learn the history of the labyrinth and explore ways to walk the labyrinth for relaxation and therapeutic issues including grief, illness and life transitions. Following the session, participants will have an opportunity to walk the 60-foot Chartres tradition Community Labyrinth located on the Mental Health Center Campus. For more information please contact Marilyn Lands at 256-705-6338. (location: 4040 S. Memorial Pkwy)

## 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](mailto:linda.wheeler@nativity-hsv.org)

The deadline for the next issue is  
Monday noon, June 13.

## 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](http://www.nativity-hsv.org)



## Nativity Confirmands 2011

John James Chilton  
Emily Lauren Church  
Julie Alayne DiFranco  
Jordan Randolph Dunn  
Rachel Emily Joffrion  
Samantha Jayne Kobler  
Carter Denton McDonald  
Charles Foard Naumann  
Susan Will Purvis  
Joseph Patrick Quillen  
Claire Elise Quirk  
Mary Margaret Ragland  
Henry Homer Chase  
Rodgers

Brooke Abegail Sherman  
Lisa Ann Smith  
Sandy Cie Allbee  
Lewie Lanham Bates, III  
James Allan Brown

Richard Lloyd Clay  
Mary Sheila Collins  
Jordan Chase Crowson  
William Pollard Elliott Jr  
Mark Ryan Fortner  
Tracey Garnet Graham  
Anna Roberson Manning  
Amy Hill Nation  
James Leighton Nation  
Linda G. Pflanczer  
Diane Reed Pratt  
Bradley Scott Rice  
Lindsay Shay Rice  
Edward Goeb Rottman III  
Lisa Katherine Stowers  
Hannah Taylor  
William Joseph Taylor  
Erin Nicole Teal  
Leslie Mechelle Trippe