THE STEEPLE



CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY, EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

WORSHIP TIMES

(* Nursery available)
7:45 a.m.
Holy Eucharist
Rite I
(Bibb Chapel)

8:45 a.m.* Holy Eucharist Rite II and Children's Chapel

11:00 a.m.* Holy Eucharist Rite II

Church School 10:00 a.m.*

THURSDAY:
6:00 p.m.
Holy Eucharist
Rite II
(Bibb Chapel)

The Church of the Nativity

February 2, 2012

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.

Saying Thank You

I still have a few Christmas thank you notes to write. But they will be sealed and delivered before Lent begins. Otherwise, my mother will haunt me for I will have left important things undone that I ought to have done, come the Ash Wednesday confession! Saying thank you takes time. Yet, pausing and thinking about a gift and even more, the love that is behind the gifting is important in realizing that I am blessed. And I am encouraged to give to others.

As a parish, we must pause and say thank you for some incredibly important gifts we have received. We must say thank you for the love and faith behind the gifts of time, talent and financial resources that have enabled countless blessings through Nativity. So, this Sunday, we will say thank you in a deliberate way to all the good folks who gave their time and talent over the past four years to implement the goals of our Preserving Our Heritage; Strengthening Our Mission capital campaign.

After the 11:00 a.m. service this Sunday, the Vestry is hosting a celebratory reception to say thank you to everyone who had a hand in this work. Please join us and give appropriate words of thanks to these good people. But first, pause and realize the love and faith that have made these blessings possible. When you walk up to our church and see its gleaming spire, shimmering copper roof, and repointed brick walls, remember that this took countless hours of work. When you kneel to worship in the beauty of holiness of our restored nave, reflect upon God's beauty and truth that inspired others to work so hard to accomplish so much.

As a parish, we need to thank our visionary and faithful vestry who have tentatively approved an aggressive budget for 2012, faithfully counting on God's abundance to be reflected in the lives of our people to fund our \$1,455,000 budget. This represents a 7% increase over 2011's budget and almost all the budget requests by the various ministry groups. We say thank you to our hard-working leaders and for the positive way they work together to enable the mission and ministry God is calling Nativity to offer at this point in our history.

And so, all members of our parish need to pause and thank the 387 households (as of Monday morning, 1/30) who have made a pledge of the financial blessings they have received from God to give back to God through Nativity. Prayerfully, at least 70 or 80 more households of our almost 800 households who claim Nativity home will pledge. When the campaign is completed in a couple of weeks, those of you who do not pledge will need to pause and say thank you to those who do. For when you receive pastoral care, or you discover God's love and grace in the beauty of holiness through our worship, or you find purpose through our outreach and education and fellowship ministries, someone else is making that possible for you.

But most of all, I hope we will all pause every day and say thank you to God from whom all blessings flow. Thank God for another day to know love and joy and peace. Thank God for setting before you meaningful service that demands your best as you love God and your neighbor as yourself. Thank God for the opportunity for a new beginning each and every day through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and his resurrection. Thank God, that you, too, might somehow be a conduit of blessing to others as you have been blessed.

Andy +

PARISH NEWS and EVENTS



Let the little children come...

Jesus was always willing to make time to bless and embrace little ones. A small change you will see on Sundays during the 8:45 service is that the children will remain in the church for the reading of the gospel, and then proceed to children's chapel and return to the church during the announcements. During the sequence hymn, the children will follow the children's cross and remain in the aisle for the proclamation of the gospel, and then follow the children's cross out to children's chapel.

The Rev. Bradley J. Landry

LOOK FOR THE GRAY NAMETAGS

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 2012 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!

NOTE NEW DATE FOR Foyer Mixer! Same time, same place...

WHEN: Sunday February 26, 6:00 p.m. (RSVP welcomed but not required)

WHERE: home of Gail and Ronnie Rogers; 2121 Greenslope Trail Questions: call Gail: 256 539 8044 gailandronnierogers@juno.com

Any and all welcome, bring a finger food and BYOB.

Mardi Gras-Cajun Night with Children's Parade



Fundraiser for Nativity's
Youth Mission Trip to
New Orleans
July 21—27, 2012

Live Music by
The Charlie Lyle
Band

Shrove Tuesday
February 21,
6:00 p.m.

<u>Menu</u>

Jambalaya
Salad, French Bread
Bread Pudding
Tea, coffee, water
Children: Pizza & King Cake
\$5 for children 10 & under

<mark>Adu</mark>lts \$12 Children \$8 (10 & under) (\$5 for pizza meal)

Reservations required no later than Friday noon February 17 to 533-2455 Food & Fun for the whole Family!

Lenten Service Opportunities

Ash Wednesday Service Schedule for Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, February 22

7:00 a.m.—Bibb Chapel

12:00 p.m.—Nave (followed by a soup lunch in Ridley Hall)

6:00 p.m.—Nave * (Adults and Teens meet in Nave; Children m

The whole family can begin your Lenten journey together on Ash Wednesday. The Children's Ash Wednesday Service (kid's level designed) will take place in Bibb Chapel for children age Kindergarten thru 5th grade. *Nursery by reservations will be available beginning at 5:45 p.m. Please make Nursery reservations by noon Tuesday February 21, to 533-2455.)

Tuesdays in Lent 2012

Noonday Preaching Series "I Invite You to a Holy Lent"

- 30 minute service beginning at 12:05 p.m.
- Following the Church services, box lunches (\$7 each) will be available in Ridley Hall.
 - Reservations for lunches are required by the previous Monday noon, 533-2455

Noon Series Preachers:

Tuesday, February 28 (Nativity Nave)

The Rev'd Virginia Monroe, Rector, Church of the Good Shepherd, Cashiers, NC

Tuesday, March 6 (Research Park)

Nativity in the Workplace at Research Park with The Rt. Rev'd Kee Sloan, Bishop, Diocese of Alabama

Tuesday, March 13 (Nativity Nave)

The Rev'd David Dill, Rector, Church of the Good Shepherd, Decatur, AL

Tuesday, March 20 (Nativity Nave)

The Rev'd Susan Sloan, Rector, St. Stephen's, Huntsville, AL

Wednesday Nights in Lent 2012, Ridley Hall

- Dinner is served beginning at 5:15 p.m.
- Lenten Speakers will begin at 6:00 p.m.
- Children's Lenten Program will begin at 6:00 p.m.
- Nursery* will open at 5:30 p.m. (reservations ONLY)

Reservations for dinner and *nursery are required by the previous Tuesday noon, 533-2455.

Wednesday Night Lenten Speakers:

Wednesday, February 29

The Rev'd Dr. Virginia Monroe, Rector, Church of the Good Shepherd, Cashiers, NC

Wednesday, March 7

The Rev'd Dr. Anna Brawler, Rector, St. Bartholomew's, Florence, AL

Wednesday, March 14

The Rev'd John Bagby, Interim Rector, Holy Comforter, Gadsden, AL

Wednesday, March 21

The Rev'd King Oehmig, retired Episcopal Priest, Founder and Editor of Synthesis Publications, Chattanooga, TN

Wednesday, March 28

The Rev'd Dexter Bender, Priest in Charge, St. Luke's Scottsboro, AL

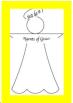
FINANCIAL CORNER

2012 Pledges by Dollar		Parish Financial Report Period Ending 12/31/2001									
Range January 30, 2012			CURRENT	В	SUDGET for						_
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\$10,000 - \$14,999.99	10	TOTAL	\$ 238,882.46	\$	113,401.00	\$1	,354,907.	38	\$1,3	60,812.00)
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\$40,000 or >	1	- 9 ,	,,	•	,-	•	,		•	,	
Total Number of Pledges	387	Personnel	\$ 62,316.00	\$	62,558.33	\$	754,288.4	17 :	\$ 7	50,700.00	0
		Other									
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\$1,2	10, 086.32										_
Forgot something?		TOTAL	. \$ 189,115.80	\$	113,393.80	\$1	,336,941.9	90 :	\$1,3	60,726.00)
Yes, Pledges can still be made!		NET	\$ 49,766.66	\$	7.20	\$	17,965.	18 :	\$	86.00)

Want to Travel, See the World, Wear a Blue Apron?

Well, not exactly. But you *could* take part in an important ministry that helps to keep our church a vital and growing place. Why not join The Blue Apron Hospitality Guild? This easy and fun ministry welcomes newcomers after the 8:45 and 11:00 services every Sunday. You simply greet new people and answer any questions that they may have.

While all volunteers are greatly appreciated, we could particularly use more help after the 11:00 service, in that the Blue Apron volunteer hosts the coffee hour. The Men's Breakfast kindly cooks a large plate of cookies for coffee hour, and the coffee is ready to go, but it is nice if the Blue Apron volunteer can bring a few extra ext goodies to share. This is such an important ministry in making our church a warm and welcoming place. If you would like to help, please call Pamela Briggs at 256-882-6363 or email her at pamelabriggs 333@comcast.net.



Just Do It! Lane Tutt is looking for help with breakfast for First Stop on the 1st Monday of each Month beginning in March (March 5, April 2, May 7, and June 4.) This is a great opportunity for a group to make a huge difference in the lives of our homeless in Huntsville. Lane can be reached at the church office or at LTutt@Nativity-hsv.org

Thank You, Michael Shipley JDI Arch Agent

ALTAR FLOWERS 2012 DEDICATION FORM

If you are interested in dedicating **Altar flowers for a specific Sunday in 2012**, 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. **Altar Flowers are \$40 or \$20 for shared dedications.**

Dates Available: August 12, 26; September 2; October 14, 21

	PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION, THANK YOU.
Date desired	<u> </u>
Your Name	
Phone # Do you wish to have your name	Would you share a dedication? listed in the bulletin?
	lory of God and in loving memory of or in thanksgiving for or in celebration of" specific by underlining or circling your desired dedication above:
Name for this altar flower ded	ication:

HAP SUNDAY—FIRST SUNDAY—FEBRUARY 5

While you shop for your family pick up a few extras for less fortunate families who rely on Huntsville Assistance Program. These items are needed:

Canned soups, meats, fruits, and vegetables
Paper towels and toilet tissue
Spaghetti noodles and sauce, Peanut Butter, Jelly



HAP

Curious about Cursillo? Looking for more info? Come and learn!

DATE: Sunday, February 12, 2012

TIME: 5:30 pm

PLACE: Nativity's Ridley Hall

MEAL: Dinner catered by Sally Stockton

RSVP: drc3898@knology.net or church office 256-533-2455 by February 6

CCIB Report: Restoration Update

It is a pleasure to report that the planned restoration work is complete. The restoration projects are believed to be historically correct and implemented to minimize future maintenance requirements of our National Historic Landmark and church home. The major restoration projects included:

- repairing/re-leading all stain-glass windows including adding protective glass
- repairing/refinishing all 27 exterior doors, porticos, breezeways, office building front including balcony, bell-tower louvers, cast iron buttress caps, dentils, wrought iron fence and exterior signs
- repair/repointing masonry of the Church and Bibb Chapel
- replacing roofs and gutter systems on Ridley Hall, Bibb Chapel, apse, sacristy, nave, and steeple repair of the church interior damaged wood and plaster

Serving as the Restoration Project Manager has been an honor, privilege and joy. Many thanks to all parishioners, staff and CCIB members for making possible all that has been accomplished.

Skipper Colin

Nativity Youth



NATIVITY YOUTH WEBSITE, check it out to stay informed www.nativityyouth.org.

Did someone say Super Bowl?

This Sunday, February 5th is Super Bowl Sunday and we're having a party at my house! The game starts at 5:00 pm and you're free to stop by, come sit for a while, or hang out for the whole game. I'll have tons of food and we'll have a great time watching all the awesome commercials. I mean,

I'll ne an,

Super Bowl

that's really what it's about, right? If you need my address, just let me know.

February 5th is also the deadline for deposits for our mission trip to New Orleans. We'll be working on Katrina relief projects while we're there, as well as having some fun along the way. If you want more information, on the trip I can send it your way.

The Shrove Tuesday Dinner is coming up on February 21 and we'll need all hands on deck! This is especially important for everyone that will be going on the mission trip. All proceeds for the dinner will go towards lowering the cost of our trip to New Orleans this summer.

Our Youth Wednesday Night Dinners are getting a makeover so look for information on that soon! Until next time friends!

INTERCESSION REQUESTS

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Joan Bennett, Rose Anne Shearer, Marian Delaney, Will Joyner, Jerry Bunnell, Logan Baugher, June Thomson, Mary Ann Bryan, Kimberly Comfort, Eddy Wade, Rhiannon Jackson, Kristi Allen, Ernie Limbo, Leigh Wahl, Bill Marsh, Elsie Olsen, Joy Gass, Emile Joffrion, Eileen Sullivan, Angel Colin, John, Nancy Kelly.

We pray for the departed:

Donald Perry, parishioner Edith Hicklen, mother of Lee Hicklen Scott Shelton, brother of Beth Durnya John D. Thomson, father of Grant Thomson

We give thanks for new member Hal Harvey

Nativity Baptism Schedule:

Sunday, February 19, 8:45 a.m. Saturday, April 27, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 27, 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

We pray for those in Military & Peace Corps:

Kuwait: Spencer Colin;

Afghanistan: Lane Sampson-Jackson, Blake Lane

The Gambia, W Africa: Marisa Benzle

We give thanks for the birthdays of our children:

2/6 Julia Pinson, Patrick Quillen

2/8 Clara Keener

2/9 Millicent Harry

2/10 Trace Markwalter

2/11 Cooper Gunter, Andrew Rawson,

Bird Sherrill

2/13 Alex McCarty

2/14 Robert McCown

2/16 Mary Elizabeth Mullins

2/18 Franklin Aldag, Crawford Watson

To schedule a baptism please contact Connie Gadomski, Ministry Assistant in the church office 256-533-2455. She will get the necessary paperwork to you.

2012 Building Schedule for Habitat House

This year we will be building a four bedroom house at 6330 Banks Road for Diane Warren and her family. Dianne is originally from Chicago, but has lived in Tennessee and Alabama most of her life. Diane, her two daughters, Amanda, 25, and Lindsey, 21, two grandchildren, A'shanae, 10 months, and

Linden, 8 months will live in the house. Diane is employed with National Copper.

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. Questions may be directed to Bill Giardini 539-0973, giardiniw@bellsouth.net

DATE	ACTIVITY		
Mar. 6, 8, 10	Deliver walls to site, Erect walls and trusses, HOUSE RAISING CEREMONY 9:00 AM Mar 10		
Mar.13, 15, 17	Apply blueboard to walls, deck roof, install windows, ext. doors, hurricane clips, and deadwood		
Mar. 20, 22, 24	Install porch beams, barge rafters, fascia, attic access, electrical rough-in		
Mar. 27, 29, 31	Install wall insulation, start vinyl siding		
Apr. 3, 5, 7	Paint walls, continue vinyl siding, install shutters		
Apr. 10, 12, 14	Clean floors and windows, install vinyl tile, landscape		
Apr. 17, 19, 21	Install and paint interior doors and trim, install cabinets, and electrical fixtures		
Apr. 24, 26, 28	Install closet hardware, window blinds, storm doors, bathroom accessories		
May 1, 3, 5	Catch up work, touch up paint, clean and wax floors		
May 8, 10, 12	Work punch list		
DEDUCATION CERTIFICATION CONTRACTOR AND ADDRESS OF THE ADDRESS OF			

DEDICATION CEREMONY: Saturday May 12!

Regular working hours are from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM with a break for lunch around noon. *Lunches are provided on Saturdays only*. Bring carpentry tools, a utility knife, gloves if you have them.

Nativity Banister Room Art Gallery



Displayer this month is Janet Stewart Lindsay. She works in several mediums, but her specialty is painting oil portraits of children or adults. She has studied portrait painting under Michael Shane Neal and Gordon Wetmore. One of her abstract paintings was recently chosen to hang in the Huntsville City Mayor's office. Contact and price list are located in red binder on table in The Banister Room.

The Episcopal Diocese of Alabama Annual Convention will be held in Huntsville at the Von Braun Civic Center February 17-18. The 181st Convention is being hosted by the Episcopal churches in Madison County. The Convention is *not open to the public* only for those registered with the Diocese as a Delegate, Alternate, Clergy, registered Visitors. Nativity is the host church for the worship service *for those participating with the Convention* (Diocesan Staff, Council, etc.) We know many of you would love to worship with us on Saturday, however, due to the registration numbers this service will not be open to the community.

Stewardship of Creation Note for February 2, 2012

The wireless world we live in runs on batteries.

That fancy <u>smart phone</u> is nothing more than a few ounces of dead weight in your pocket without a charged battery. That iPod can't utter a sound when its battery drains the last drop. Even <u>laptop</u> power cords feel like restrictive leashes, holding us back from joining the mobile mayhem.

But are we paying a high environmental price for all of this battery-operated convenience?

"Rechargeable batteries can contain metals that may be harmful to the environmental *if not disposed of properly,*" said Carl Smith, CEO of <u>Call2Recycle</u>, a rechargeable battery collection program operated by the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation. "So, it's better to keep them out of landfills."

Since Congress passed the Mercury-Containing Battery Management Act in 1996, most disposable alkaline batteries contain little or no mercury. As a result, they're considered nontoxic enough to toss out with the household trash.

Rechargeable batteries are greener on the production end since they last for hundreds of cycles over many years. However, the toxic metals required to make them – cadmium, cobalt, lead – aren't kind to the Earth.

When rechargeable batteries degrade in landfills, heavy metals can taint the surrounding air, topsoil and groundwater, eventually getting inside our bodies.

For that reason, Call2Recycle and similar programs are working to train consumers to recycle their cell phone, laptop, digital camera and other rechargeable batteries. Those heavy metals can actually be reused to make more batteries, reducing the need to mine for new resources.

<u>Recycling</u> is the best way consumers can prevent those heavy metals from leeching into the environment and help green the battery production cycle.

Cairns points to the success of recycling programs in the automotive battery industry. Lead-acid car batteries are one of the most commonly recycled rechargeables, which has not only kept lead out of the waste stream but also reduced the demand for lead mining since around 80 percent of the lead in the new car batteries is a recycling byproduct.

By doing the same with the smaller lithium-ion, button cell and nickel metal hydride rechargeable batteries in our household products and portable electronic devices, cadmium, cobalt, nickel and other heavy metals also can be reused in new batteries.

It just depends on consumers taking initiative and getting them to the appropriate <u>battery recycling drop-off sites</u>. Many local retailers, such as Staples and Office Depot, accept batteries and other items for recycling.

Also, this Saturday, February 4th, is our local Handle With Care Household Hazardous Waste Program DROP-OFF DAY. The goal is to reduce the toxicity of the community's waste stream by removing as much of the household hazardous wastes as possible. See the Solid Waste Authority web site for additional information on other items, such as household chemicals and TVs and computers, which are accepted in addition to batteries.

The program is free of charge to all residents of Madison County, the City of Huntsville, and the City of Madison. The program is for residents ONLY.

You can drop off household hazardous waste on the first Saturday of each month from 8:00 a.m. to Noon at the Handle with Care Collection Center at the Huntsville Landfill, 4100 Leeman Ferry Road. For special assistance, call 256-880-6054.



Prayer Box in Ridley Hall The Daughters of the King prayer box has been moved to the literature rack in Ridley Hall. All those who desire that prayers be offered for themselves or loved ones may place their requests in the box. All requests are confidential. The Daughters of the King is a religious order within the Episcopal Church. Through its emphasis on spirituality and prayer it hopes to encourage others to have a deeper relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

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, February 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 Jeannie Robison
Deacon

Suzanne Purtee

Organist/Choirmaster

Lane Tutt

Adult Christian Formation

Liz Williams

Youth Minister

Elizabeth Foster

Children's Formation

Cassie Chenoweth
Assistant 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

Pat Goodson

Senior Warden

Russ Alexander

Junior Warden

Frederick Lanier

Treasurer

Hannah Boon

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 256-533-2455Fax: 256-533-2374

www.nativity-hsv.org

An invitation for you:

On Sunday, February 5, following the 11:00 a.m. service, please join us as we honor those who served with the Nativity Capital Campaign & the Implementation Process

Now that four years of work are completed on our
Capital Campaign and Implementation,
the Vestry and Congregation will take time out to say,
"Thank You!"
to those who have worked so faithfully by giving their time

Reception in Ridley Hall hosted by Vestry

and talent in this endeavor.