

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

September 4, 2013



CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY,
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

Fall WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY

(* Nursery available)

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY

12:00 noon
Holy Eucharist & Healing
(Bibb Chapel)

THURSDAY

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

Mission of the Church of the Nativity

God's family at the historic Church of the Nativity is joyfully and energetically committed to sharing Christ's love and healing by proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel through worship and service to the world.

Nativity Serves Good Food!

People are paying attention to what they are eating these days. Our Greene Street Market at Nativity provides healthy, nutritious vegetables, dairy, and meat products as well as special artisan foods to satisfy and reward. We eat more vegetables (served with a side of *Tutt and Tutt's relish*, of course) so that we can enjoy *Pop Culture*, *Sweet Thangs* and *Carleton's* goodies! The buzz is all about gluten free or vegetarian and the Zone, which by the way, *What's for Supper* does well. The best restaurants now have a vegetarian option and can make your meal low-carb, even vegan if you are that serious.

And if we are not paying attention to what we are eating, the media certainly is doing that for you by zeroing in on the high caloric and fat content of most fast food choices. The consequences of obesity and poor diet are clear in spite of most fast food establishments offering a few "lite and healthy" options (but who are we kidding...*I'll have the apple slices side with my Cheese Whopper!*).

We should be concerned about our diets, especially if we want to keep healthy bodies and minds. Again, one of the purposes of our Greene Street Market is to help us do that, and most importantly, help us promote healthy foods to those people whose economic circumstances inhibit healthy choices. A healthy diet is critical to well-being.

In John's Gospel, Jesus tells the disciples who urge him to eat something after a long day's work, "I have food to eat that you do not know about....My food is to do the will of him who sent me..." Jesus offers us food for the soul that sustains and strengthens us spiritually.

Our Bishop Kee Sloan reminds us often that in the Episcopal Church, we serve good food! In the midst of the world's smorgasbord of offerings, we face many options that are not nourishing our souls. How is your spiritual diet? Are you getting the nutrition that will sustain you when life gets tough?

Jesus tells us, ***I have food to eat that you do not know about....*** Jesus is the bread of life and living water, a never-failing spring that wells up to eternal life. Nativity offers food for our hearts and souls that the world cannot give. Here are some of the things we offer this fall to serve on the table of your lives in addition to our regular worship:

- Church School Classes for all ages beginning September 8 at 10:00 a.m.
- Centering Prayer on Tuesdays at 5:30 and Thursdays at Noon
- Four weekly Adult Bible Studies (Wednesdays at 7:15 a.m., 1 p.m.; 6 p.m., and Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m.)
- Youth gatherings on Sunday evenings, Tuesday afternoons, and Wednesday evenings
- Two Education for Ministry (EFM) classes weekly on Monday and Tuesday evenings
- Adult Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
- Children's choirs on Wednesdays and children's Art & Music on Thursday afternoons
- Elementary School Girls' Bible Study monthly
- Wednesday Nights at Nativity beginning October 2 (Food for the body and soul!)
- Cursillo Small Groups meeting throughout the week
- And many more opportunities to grow and serve and give.....

We have food that the world cannot give. Please join us at our table this fall!

Andy +

CHILDREN'S AND ADULT SUNDAY FORMATION CLASSES FOR FALL

Children's classes begin September 8

Godly Play ages 3 and 4

Location: Angel Lane (downstairs in Ridley Hall)

WoRM

Kindergartners through 4 graders will be learning about "Hearing God's Voice" this year in the WoRM.

Location: Angel Lane (downstairs in Ridley Hall)

Club 56

All 5th and 6th graders are invited to join Club 56 - a traditional Bible class with a "tween" twist.

Leaders: Missy Walker, Shelly Whitney

Adult Classes begin September 15

**One time Class September 8—Dave Ramsey DVD,
Ridley Hall**

The Book Class

The Apocrypha by David A. deSilva

Class Leaders: Evie Spearman and Guest Speakers

Place: Bibb Chapel

The Breakfast Club Sunday School Class

*What's So Amazing About Grace & The Jesus I
Never Knew*, by Philip Yancey

Class Leaders: Amy Creech and Emily Rodgers

Place: Joffrion Hall 2 West

The Zimmerman Bible Study Class

Class Leaders: Jim Douthit, Virginia Kobler, Suzy Naumann, Pride Sherrill, Elise Taylor, Gaines Watts,
Place: Library

The Social Justice Sunday School Class

When Helping Hurts, Brian Fikkert and Steve Corbett

Class leaders: Marilyn Lands, Jackie Sheldon, Christine Starnes, Bill Starnes and Melissa Kirkindall

Place: The Banister room

CALLING ALL ADULTS...

**Can't make it to the weeknight Dave Ramsey
financial series?**

You are invited to view one of Dave Ramsey's most powerful DVDs in his Financial Peace University series.

Here are the details:

WHEN: Sunday, September 8

TIME: 10:00 am

WHERE: Ridley Hall

This will be the only Sunday School class for adults that day and you are invited to assemble in Ridley Hall promptly at 10:00 am to view the DVD. There is no cost to attend this class and refreshments will be served. Come grab a little "financial peace" courtesy of Dave Ramsey!



Four Weeks of Miracles

Wednesday Sept. 4 from 6 - 7 pm

Facilitator: Rusty McCown

We will look miracle stories that are exclusive to each of the four gospels and what they mean for all Christians today.

The Libba Walker Wed. Night Bible Study for Women.

The book we will be using is *The Way – Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus* by Adam Hamilton. You can order on Amazon.com or try Life Way Book store.

Wed. night – 6:00--7:00p.m. Place: library

Dates: October 2nd – November 6th (6 weeks)

Contact: Lane Tutt 256-653-7200.

Leaders: Lynne Evans, Kay Wheeler, Jane Brocato, Sarah Gessler, Anne Robinson, Lane Tutt

Reflections

A Bible Study for Busy Moms

Thursdays at 9:30 am in J2E.

Nursery is provided!

For more information, contact Debbie Collette at 256-527-5050.

Inreach Ministry Fair

LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED AT NATIVITY?

Join us for the Inreach Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 15 in Ridley Hall. Representatives from our worship, parish life, hospitality, pastoral care, spiritual life, and other ministries will be present to tell you about their ministry and sign you up! The fair will be open before and after the 8:45 am service (Sunday School will be held as scheduled!) and after the 11:00 am service. Please plan to stop by and find your place in one of our vibrant Inreach Ministries! This event is sponsored by your Nativity Stewardship Ministry. Refreshments will be provided.

Mark your Calendar: Sunday morning, October 13 – OUTREACH MINISTRY FAIR [Find out how you can be involved in various outreach activities in the community, the Diocese, and the world]

Day of Unity and Service on the International Day of Peace September 21, 2013

Twelve years ago, IMS began coordinating the efforts of the faith community, encouraging different faiths, cultures, and backgrounds to come together on behalf of the deserving agencies/organizations in our community. On Saturday, September 21, 2013, Interfaith Mission Service (IMS) will again hold its annual Day of Service and Unity in Madison County.

Men, women, boys and girls will work at various agencies/organizations on the *Day of Service and Unity* sprucing up, painting, pulling weeds, cutting grass and whatever the participating agencies/organizations need. Projects vary in terms of skills and exertion; however, there will be something for everyone to do regardless of age.

How you can help?



Come out and volunteer. You can sign up as an individual or gather your family and friends to sign up as a group and work. Sign up will be online at IMS' website. Then on September 21st come to Faith Presbyterian at 7:30 a.m.; check in, enjoy refreshments and meet other volunteers.

Peace Rally. An event to bring the community out and share in music, fun activities and fellowship with one another prior to working side-by-side on the Day of Service and Unity. Light a candle for peace on Friday, September 20th at Big Spring Park Gazebo from 5:30-6:30.

Donate

Donations are always welcome. Food supplies, bottled water, light snacks, and tools may be needed for the volunteers to complete their task. If you or your group would like to make a donation, feel free to drop them off at the IMS office.

Welcome Carol Ann Reagh, New Rector's Assistant

I am very excited about this opportunity to become a part of The Church of the Nativity. My husband Tommy, 14 year old son, Elijah and I, are all native Huntsvillians. I received my Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from the University of North Alabama. My career began at our local Tax Assessors' Office, supporting their migration into a GIS (Geographic Information Systems) environment, and most recently doing GIS work at Intergraph. I welcome this next chapter of my life with much enthusiasm and gratitude.



As an avid cyclist, I enjoy spending my free time cycling around downtown, through my Blossomwood neighborhood, and to our family-owned bike shop, *Trailhead*, in Five Points. My weekends are often spent hiking the Landtrust Trails with our pups, fostered through Huntsville Animal Services. As with family and friends, animals are very close to my heart.

After meeting with Father Andy, walking through the church facilities and hearing the variety of events that take place inside the walls of this beautiful building, I left with the feeling that this Church is ALIVE. It is contributing to and making a difference in the lives of many people, their families, our community, and wherever the ripples go from there. I feel excited and blessed to be coming to work at The Church of the Nativity, and look forward to meeting each of you.

Upcoming Baptism Dates

- September 15th at the 11:00 service
 - November 3, All Saints', 8:45 & 11:00 services
- Contact Connie in the church office to register

Music Notes Music Notes

A New Season of Nativity Choir has begun!
Come and find your place in the choir!

Children's Choirs rehearse
on Wednesdays at 4:30 &
5:00 pm; Art & Music on
Thursdays at 5 pm. All
children ages 4 1/2 & up
are invited to participate in
a choir.



Thursday's through – Oct 31st, 4 - 7 p.m.
(Note new hours)

Food, Friends, & Song! Thursday, September 19th

A new chance to fellowship at Nativity!

- Each month, following the Thursday 6pm service with the Cursillo band in the Chapel, all are welcome to gather in Ridley Hall for a potluck and sing-along! Bring your favorite dish – (or what you just purchased at Greene Street Market!) to share.
- Then...stick around for a sing-along! We'll use the yellow Alleluia III songbook as our resource.

Questions? Contact Barbara Bonner at bcbonner65@gmail.com
or Minda Alexander
at mindaa@comcast.net



Hope to see you there!

News from the Top of the Hill...

Mark your calendar for flu and pneumonia shots on Tuesday, **September 24**, from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Debbie Collette has agreed to bring the shots to us in the Bannister Room. So that Debbie knows how many of each kind of vaccine to bring, you **MUST** register with the office, no later than noon Monday, September 23 (256-533-2455). Most insurance companies and Medicare cover the cost of the vaccination(s).

And while you're signing up for the flu shots, sign up for the Top of the Hill Gang Luncheon that same Tuesday, starting with appetizers at 11:30 and lunch at noon.



The Spiritual Development Committee invites you to

Wednesdays in October

Come hear our own Nativity Parishioners speak about
"Spirituality...manifest in many ways"

Save the Dates! October 2, 9, 16 & 23.

Topics will include:

- Spirituality as Education
- Spirituality as Outreach
- Spirituality as Music
- Spirituality as Community

Guest speakers will be: Lane Tutt, Elizabeth Foster, William Blackerby, Suzanne Purtee, Judy Vann, Michael Shipley, Ginney McDonald, Jeannie Robison and others!

Dinner & Nursery will be available by reservation through the church office, 256.533.2455





EYC Church of the Nativity

Youth Notes!

Fall Programming Rundown

EYC KICKOFF Next Sunday, Sept. 8th, 6:00—8:00 PM

Come kick off our fall schedule with a bang next Sunday night! All 7th-12th graders (and friends!) are invited to play messy games, eat hamburgers and hotdogs, and worship God together. Be sure to wear clothes that can get completely messy. Be in the circle at the church at 6:00 PM!

LOFT Groups Begin Meeting Sunday, September 15th

We're trying something new on Sunday nights. You might have noticed our new logo (designed by Lori Webber) at the top of this page. **LOFT** stands for **Living Our Faith Together**, and is inspired by the EYC LOFT high atop Joffrion Hall. Starting September 15th, Nativity's three LOFT Groups will begin meeting. **7th & 8th grade boys and girls** will meet on the 2nd floor of Ridley Hall at **5:30 PM** to play games and get to know each other better. **High School girls** will meet at **5:30 PM** in the EYC LOFT. **High School boys** are invited to join the two other groups for **dinner and worship for everyone at 6:30 PM in the LOFT**, and their LOFT Group will meet at from **7:30—9:00 PM**. Check www.nativityyouth.org for updates and more details.

Fall 2013 Weekly Schedule

We've got an exciting weekly schedule lined up this fall, with opportunities to get involved on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. [Click here to the view the schedule on our website!](#)

Save the Date!

Sunday, September 22—Tennessee Valley District Day

Come eat good food and enjoy a **powder paint color war** (like the Color Run!) with youth from Episcopal Churches all over the Tennessee Valley area! 2-4 pm at Church of the Good Shepherd in Decatur, AL. Transportation provided from Nativity.

Got a youth in your house?
Want to know what's
going on in Nativity youth
ministry?

Complete the survey found
at this link to get in the loop!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sunday, September 8th, 10:00 AM—**First Day of Church School**
- Sunday, September 8th, 6:00—8:00 PM— **EYC Kickoff for 7th-12th grades!**
- Tuesday, September 10th, 3:30-5:00 PM—**Facetime at Sam & Greg's**
- Wednesday, September 11th, 6:00-7:00 PM—**Wednesday Night Youth Dinner**
- Thursday, September 12th, - **Deadline to Sign Up for National Acolyte Festival, Washing-**

I love feedback! Call me, William Blackerby, at 205-240-3705, or email wblackerby@nativity-hsv.org

Like a Child I'm Always Learning
A musical and Spiritual Journey in Recovery

by John McAndrew
 September 27-29, 2013

Camp McDowell

Deadline for registration is September 20th. Register
 online at www.dioala.org



A Diocese of Alabama Recovery Ministry Event

**Diocese of Alabama Annual Episcopal
 Churchwomen Gathering**

“PRAY-BELIEVE-LOVE-SERVE”

Trinity Episcopal Church
401 North Main Street, Demopolis, Alabama 36732
334-289-3363

October 10-11, 2013

Trinity is located on 401 North Main Avenue in historic
 downtown Demopolis. We are one block west off of U.S.
 Highway 43, between Lyon and Monroe Streets.

Speaker: Dolores Hydock, award winning story teller.

Make your plans with your fellow church women to
 attend this year's conference. There is limited hotel space
 in Demopolis so book early as this promises to be a sell-
 out conference.

\$40 Registration fee (speaker, a wine and cheese reception with
 silent auction, a catered dinner, welcome bag surprises, plus
 lunches, snacks, wonderful worship and fellowship) **by check to**
ECW Black Belt Convocation.

Return form and check by September 20th to:
 Bea Strong, 1518 Bellwood Lane, Northport, AL 35476
gtr113@aol.com

Medicine and Ministry
of the whole person

42nd annual conference for healthcare professionals,
 clergy, psychologists and their spouses/significant others

Dr. Ed Tick, Holistic Psychotherapist

Keynote speaker

November 7-10, 2013

Kanuga Conferences Inc.

Deadline for registration is October 15, 2013.

Register online at medicineandministry.org or contact
 the church office for a form.

Parish Financial Report
Period Ending 07/31/2013

	CURRENT MONTH	BUDGET for PE- RIOD	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD
Pledges Received	\$ 84,452.53	\$ 105,833.33	\$ 709,942.84	\$ 740,833.35
Plate	\$ 4,225.40	\$ 6,666.67	\$ 42,279.60	\$ 46,666.65
Other Revenues	\$ 1,182.00	\$ 8,733.33	\$ 69,807.77	\$ 61,133.35
TOTAL	\$ 89,859.93	\$ 121,233.33	\$ 822,030.21	\$ 848,633.35
Diocesan, School of Theology, & Out- reach	\$ 26,868.55	\$ 23,841.64	\$ 136,923.43	\$ 166,891.78
Personnel	\$ 71,228.56	\$ 67,281.66	\$ 470,150.75	\$ 471,639.72
Other Expenses	\$ 32,469.88	\$ 30,054.37	\$ 199,882.03	\$ 210,380.15
TOTAL	\$ 130,566.99	\$ 121,177.67	\$ 806,956.21	\$ 848,911.65
NET	\$ (40,707.06)	\$ 55.66	\$ 15,074.00	\$ (278.30)

INTERCESSION REQUESTS

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Suzanne Purtee, William Stroud, Ed Vaughn, Julia Perry, Doug Norman, Carla King, Mike Bryan, Tate Knapp, Basye Holland-Shuey, Lindsey Wintzinger, RuthAnn Haymes, Ruth Gentry, Joe Hackett, Juanita Delaney, Charles Mabie, George Thacker, Louis Amis, John Orosz, Richard Hubbard, Joan Bennett, tracie Carpenter, Gary Glover, Nancy Colin Swenson, Angel Colin, Ann Garrett, Elaine Wood, Lynne swanson, Phyllis Lawson, Eileen Sullivan, Elsie Olsen, Leigh Wahl, Emile Joffrion, Nancy Kelly

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

Bahrain: Jonathan Serwecki; South Korea: Tim Fuhrman; Afghanistan: Michael Knight

We pray for the departed:

Ben Kelly Strain, grandfather of Amy Creech
Marie Shuey, mother of Ralph Shuey
Tom Nixon, brother-in-law of Fr. Anderson

We pray for parishioners attending Cursillo # 189 at Camp McDowell September 12-15:

Eleanor Loring, Rick Loring, Laura Malone, Darren Malone, Diane Pratt, and Marina Prucha.

We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

9/6	Patrick Ahearn	9/9	Mary McClung	9/9	Samantha Rowe	9/9	Emma Baggette
9/12	Michah Watts	9/13	Parker Ellis	9/14	Sara Hutchens	9/15	Lillian Retzke
9/18	Samuel Arnette						

CENTERING PRAYER WORKSHOP

Saturday, September 28, 2013

Asbury United Methodist Church, 980 Hughes Road, Madison, AL is hosting an Introduction to Centering Prayer Workshop on Saturday, September 28, 2013 from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm . Centering Prayer is a means to deepen one's prayer life by learning "to rest in God." It is a method of consenting to the presence and action of Christ in the stillness of our being. It leads one into silent communion with God beyond concepts, words and images. The workshop is designed for all who are seeking a deeper relationship with the Lord through their prayer life. The registration \$30 per person and includes lunch. **To register** call or email Judy Ann White at 256 772-1537

or jawwhite95@gmail.com. Registration deadline is September 26, 2013.

Support Group Meeting

The next meeting of the "Surviving the Suicide of a Loved One" support group of *The Vine* will be Monday, September 9, 8:30 until 10:00 in the library at First Christian Church at 3209 Whitesburg Drive. This ongoing support group meets monthly and is open to all members of supporting churches of *The Vine*. Please call our office, 256-270-7399, for information about next meetings.

Save the Date!

Thanks-4-Giving Celebration

Thursday, October 17th

Huntsville Museum of Art



**BENEDICTINE
SISTERS**

SACRED HEART MONASTERY
in CULLMAN, ALABAMA

Centering Prayer introductory retreat to be held

An Introduction to Centering Prayer retreat will be held at the Benedictine Sisters Retreat Center in Cullman September 13-15. This form of Christian prayer is rooted in the ancient Christian contemplative tradition and is intended to foster a deeper intimacy with Christ. Private rooms and the ability to maintain silence are required.

The cost for the weekend is \$210/person; lodging, meals, and linens are included. For registration information and other details, please contact the Benedictine Sisters Retreat Center at (256) 734-8302 or by e-mail at retreats@shmon.org.

STEEPLE SCHEDULE

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

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

cwatts@nativity-hsv.org

The deadline for the next issue is **Monday noon, September 16.**

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev'd Dr. Andy Anderson
Rector

The Rev'd Rusty McCown
Associate

The Rev'd Mary Groff
Associate for Pastoral Care

The Rev'd Jeannie Robison
Deacon

Suzanne Purtee
Organist/Choirmaster

Lane Tutt

Adult Christian Formation

William Blackerby
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

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

Carol Ann Reagh
Assistant to the Rector

Cheryl Watts
Communications Assistant

Prentice White
Verger/Wedding Coordinator

WARDENS' COUNCIL

Rusty Stephenson Sr Warden
Brad Hall Jr Warden

Stacy Moon Clerk

Robert Mullins Treasurer
Frederick Lanier Finance Chair
Don Wheeler Nativity Trust

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 message.

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

Sponsored by the Nativity Men's Ministry

Monthly Men's Breakfast

Tuesday, September 10th

7:00 am

Ridley Hall

This month's Guest Speaker:

Dr. Neal Lamb, Director of Educational Outreach

Hudson/Alpha Institute

A Simple Eucharist will be offered at

6:30 am in Bibb Chapel



Suggested donation: \$5.00 per person

No reservations needed- just show up!