THE STEEPLE



CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY, EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

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

The Church of the Nativity

March 5, 2014

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.

Transformation in Lent through Almsgiving:

Making a 3-5 Year Pledge to Bethany Village this Lent

Lent is the season when we open ourselves to all the things that keep us from trusting God so that we can be transformed to be the people of blessing God created us to be. Lent gives the opportunity to trust God even more by special acts of devotion during this special time of transformation. Today's Ash Wednesday Gospel talks about the three major ways we allow God to enter our lives anew: through praying, fasting, and, yes, almsgiving.

Face it, my friends, the biggest obstacle most of us have to trusting God is with our money. The Gospel passage concludes: *Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven... For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

You want to get your heart right with God this Lent? You are invited to observe a Holy Lent of transformation by examining where your treasure is. And then, after praying and fasting from worldly goods and anxieties, giving alms over and above your regular church pledge.

Bishop Kee Sloan challenges Nativity to give alms and pledges to Bethany Village at Camp McDowell this Lent.

Have you heard about our Diocese's Bethany Village mission? Have you heard about the plan to share the magic of Camp McDowell with thousands of people who don't yet have the opportunity? How about a *permanent* place for Folk school? What about jobs available for people with physical and mental disabilities? Bethany Village will be fully handicapped accessible, environmentally friendly and self-sustaining with its own farm!

Bethany Village is a bold dream to expand Camp McDowell with the addition of 6 Miller Commons-type lodges, 10 cabins, a blacksmith shop, chicken houses, a teaching kitchen, barns for livestock and farming, and a handicapped accessible playground. However, this dream does not come without a cost, and in this case it's \$9 million dollars. The Diocese has raised over half of this amount in pledges from parishes and individuals across Alabama, but now, God needs *YOU*.

We hope to raise \$400,000 from Nativity's family to build a lodge! In the coming weeks, every household at Nativity will be contacted, and we hope that every one of us will take part in the campaign so that a Nativity lodge will be a gift from all of us. I am grateful for Mel Ford, Betty Hornsby, and Chris Whitney who are chairing Nativity's campaign. Look for their letter!

The cost is significant, but the benefits to our parish, to the Diocese, and to people from all over is far deeper and richer than the dollar amount. Yes, it may require us to sacrifice something in order to complete this pledge, but, in so doing, Nativity will be a part of something truly important. We will help build a place where Jesus' friends live, and that is something to celebrate! This would be somewhere that we, as a parish, could be proud of... somewhere we could lay our heads at upcoming Parish Weekends...somewhere concrete that we could look at and know we really made an impact in the lives of many, *many* people. Be transformed this Lent and make a pledge to Bethany Village!

Andy +

"Transformation in Lent"



Tuesdays at Noon Lent 2014

Noonday Preaching Series The Church of the Nativity, Episcopal 30 minute Service

Series Preachers

Tuesday, March 11
Father Kevin Millsaps
Holy Cross-Sts, Constant

Holy Cross-Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Huntsville

Tuesday, March 18
The Rev. Evan Garner,
Rector
St. John's Decatur, Alabama

Tuesday, March 25 The Rev. Lynette Lamphere, Rector

Epiphany, Leeds, Alabama

Tuesday, April 1
The Rev. Paul Pradat, Priestin-Charge
St. Thomas, Huntsville

Tuesday, April 8 The Rev. Katie Nakamura Rengers,

Associate Rector St. Luke's, Birmingham

Following the Services, box Lunches (\$7.00 each) will be available in Ridley Hall.

Reservations for the lunches are required by the previous Monday noon, 533-2455.

The Church of the Nativity, Episcopal 208 Eustis Street ~ Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Wednesday Evening Lenten Series "Transformation in Lent"



Dinner 5:30 p.m.

Programs for all ages 6:10 p.m.

Nursery is available.

Reservations are required for both nursery & dinner.

INTERCESSION REQUESTS

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Tyler Ryan, Roger Bingham, Byron Vann, Ray Dawson, Tom Booth, Barry Morton, Nancy Colin Swenson, Bess Wallace, Tom Robinson, Jeanne Shaw, Anna Post, Harry Beazley, RuthAnn Haymes, Carla King, Suzanne Johnson, Barbara Hunkapillar, Louis Amis, Phyllis Lawson, Eileen Sullivan, Elsie Olsen, Leigh Wahl, Emile Joffrion

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

Bahrain: Jonathan Serwecki; South Korea: Tim Fuhrman; Afghanistan: Michael Knight; Navy, Jesse Teal

<u>We pray for Cursillo #191 March 13-16</u> at Camp McDowell, and for Ronnie and Gail Rogers who will be serving on Staff. (Please join us to walk the **Stations of the Cross on Thursday, March 13 at 6:45 following the Sunday on Thursday Service)**



We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

3/7 Mary Maddox Creech 3/8 Catherine Hendricks 3/11 Leighton Luther 3/12 Riley Kamelchuk 3/12 Foard Naumann 3/14 Riley Alexander 3/15 Gavin Ray 3/16 Timmy Curran

3/19 Edward Abodonia

Lenten Programs for Children

Ages K - grade 6

*Ash Wednesday

March 5th at 5:45 pm

Ridley Hall

Special Service and light Lenten Supper Reservations by noon March 4th

Icon Art Day

with Denise Schiber March 8th from 10 am - 12 noon Ridley Hall

*Lenten Series: "Ways People Pray"

Wednesday's

Supper: 5:30 pm

Program: 6:00 pm

Reservations by noon Tuesday prior

March 12th: Candle craft with Youth

March 19th: Icons with Mrs. Vaughn

March 26th: NO Program - Spring Break!

April 2nd: Mandala Meditations

April 9th: Music with Youth

*Nursery available by reservation
For reservations, call the church office at
256-533-2455

Children's Corner

March 5 – 5:45 pm Special Ash Wednesday program and light supper for ages 5 and up (nursery by reservation)

March 16 — 4:00 pm **BFF**

— Club 56 movie outing (time TBD)

Save the Dates: May 2-4 Parish Weekend:

et upplugged!

July 14th-17th — \\Dagger \BS :

Under Construction

Sundays at 10:00am

3&4 year olds - Godly Play

k-3 Workshop Rotation: John the Baptist

4th grade: Grapple 5th &6th grade: Club 56

Wednesdays at 5:00pm

Children's Choirs Pre-K & up

Camp McDowell Summer registration now open

http://campmcdowell.dioala.org/

VENITE

Monday nights during Lent, beginning March 10. Open to all persons, all faiths. Join us in song and prayer, or simply share in a montent's peace.

6:00—6:30 pm

Holy Spirit Catholic Church

645 Airport Road

ICONS Luncheon and Talk,

Monday, March 31 at 12:00 noon

Join us for lunch with Martha Vines. Martha is an art historian at UAH who specializes, among other things, in the art of icons and their place in art history both inside the orthodox tradition and outside it. Her talk will focus on the marriage of art and religious or spiritual devotion. She will talk about Ludmila's art as it fits into that tradition and how it doesn't. As an art historian, she will also discuss Ludmila's work as contemporary art.

The lunch will be catered. The cost about \$7. Reservations need to be made by calling the church office. Lunch is at noon and the program will be over at 1:00 pm.

PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE AND TURKEY, OCTOBER 8-25, 2014



Join Father Andy Anderson and Academy International Travel and their experienced guides for a rich experience exploring New Testament Foundations with Paul's missionary travels and the early

church's growth and development in Greece and Turkey. This 17 day tour includes Athens, Corinth, Philippi, Thesolonika, Meteora,

stabul, Ephesus, Pergamum, Assos and a 3 night cruise of the Greek Isles visiting Rhodes, Crete, and Santorini. Historical sites from Western Civilization will also be visited, including sites in Athens, Delphi, and Istanbul with its famous covered market and historical mosques. For more information, please visit Nativity's web site or contact the Church office.

Interested in attending a Cursillo weekend in 2014?

Cursillo is an incredible experience that begins by attending a Cursillo weekend at Camp McDowell. The weekend propels you back into the "real world" with renewed vigor toward the worship, study, and service aspects of your life. Hundreds of Nativity parishioners have attended a Cursillo weekend and are active in the Cursillo Community today.

Cursillo weekends for 2014 will be held April 10-13 (April 13 is Palm Sunday) June 12-15 (June 15 is Father's Day) September 11-14 October 9-12

If you are interested in attending one of these weekends and becoming a member of the Cursillo community, please contact David Collette (drc3898@knology.net) or Debbie Collette (dtc3898@knology.net).

FLOURISHING IN FAITH: A note from your Stewardship Ministry

If you are one of the nearly 400 Nativity families who have made a financial pledge for 2014, THANK YOU! Your pledges have brought us close to our goal and we are most appreciative.

We have made it simpler than ever to make your pledge this year:

- Complete your pledge card and place in the alms basin or bring it by the church office
- Call our bookkeeper, Beverly Franklin, at 256-533-2455 and make your pledge
- E-mail Beverly at <u>bfranklin@nativity-hsv.net</u> and make your pledge online at the Nativity website (dioala.nativity.org à GIVING tab à Pledge Now)

2014 VESTRY

Back Row: Rev. Rusty McCown, Tom Lydon, Mike Innes, Lewie Bates, Bill Starnes, Amy Brooks, Kelly Hudson,
Margaret Day Baker, Stacy Moon, Hannah Boon, Amy Creech
Front Row: Allen Daniels, Brenda Chynoweth, Rev. Andy Anderson, Lou Durnya, Frederick Lanier, Robert Mullins,
Ginney McDonald, Michele Hunter. Not Shown: Beverly Farrington





Youth Notes!

EYC Church of the Nativity

Nativity Shows Promise in Inaugural Tennessee Valley Episcopal Cup



After two hard fought contests against two very skilled teams, Nativity's

"Boys in Green" finished third in the first ever Tennessee Valley Episcopal Soccer Cup. The day looked grim despite beautiful weather as the side from St. Thomas got out to an early 4-0 lead in the first match, but Nativity avoided the shut-out with a late second half goal before time was called with a 5-1 score line. Following a brief rest, the downtown squad took to the pitch for the fight for second place against the St. John's Saints of Decatur, who fell 4-0 to cup winners St. Thomas. Nativity's front 3 Van Dodgen, Cole Greco, and Huston Morring matched the Saints goal for goal early in the first half, but at halftime the River City squad led 4-2. Having heard several rousing speeches by the team captains (all of us — we were a team of 7 boys after all), Nativity's defensive line of Alec Bonner, David DiFranco, and William Blackerby fought hard in the second half, while goalkeeper Park Ellis made several spectacular saves. Striker Noah, on loan from St. Thomas (and Huntsville United) lofted a late goal into the back of the net for Nativity to make the score 4-3, but the whistle blew before Nativity could score the equalizer. Following the tournament, several players from the Nativity side were heard saying "can we stop for something to eat?" to which manager Blackerby replied "No, I told your parents we'd be back at 5:30." All teams involved are looking forward to



Youth Icons in Transformation Dinner Sunday, March 9th, 6:00-7:30 PM in Ridley Hall

Nativity is hosting an amazing international art exhibition, and this is your chance to come learn about it! Bring friends for dinner and a brief talk about what



icons are before exploring the exhibit and how it explores what it means to be known, seen, and loved by God. Email William to RSVP! Bring \$7 for supper.

Diocesan Events Coming Up

- •• Rites of Spring at Camp McDowell, Friday through Sunday, March 28-30. A retreat at the end of Spring Break for youth in grades 9-12. Cost to attend is \$115. Click here to sign up! Deadline is March 14th!
- •• Diocesan Acolyte Festival, Saturday, April 26th, 9 AM to 4 PM at Cathedral Church of the Advent.

This inaugural event is a day all about honoring the ministry of acolytes. The day will include a visit by Bishop Marray, workshops on different aspects of being an acolyte, Acolyte Olympic games with a special prize for the winning acolyte team, catered lunch, and a Festival Eucharist with procession of participants. All Nativity acolytes are invited to this event! Some transportation will be provided from Nativity. To sign up, visit http://bit.ly/acofest.



PASS THE WORD to friends, neighbors, fellow workers at your office, your Book Club, your Supper Club, your Civic groups! Any other clubs, organizations, parents of your children's sports teams, etc.

COME VISIT ICONS IN TRANSFORMATION!

A message from Deacon Jeannie ...

For the past 6 months, I have been having problems with my lumbar spine. I have stenosis in the lumbar vertebrae, and as it worsens, it impinges on the nerves in that area. Sometimes I look like a sailboat listing in the breeze as I try to find a comfortable way to stand and walk.

As I continue to seek help from the medical community, I have asked Father Andy and Bishop Kee if I can take the month of March off so that I can concentrate intensely on what I can do to help alleviate the pain and deterioration. Both have generously agreed. So I will be inactive at Nativity during the month of March. I will return to my deacon duties on Sunday, April 6. Deacon Mary has generously agreed to return as our Deacon during March, for which I am very grateful!

I plan to spend lots of time in the deep end of the James Williams heated pool. That, more than anything else, seems to help. I'll resume my physical therapy exercises and learn "mindfulness meditation for pain relief." I would be most grateful for your prayers and advice.

Peace and love to you all.

Jeannie

SCHEDULE FOR 2014 HABITAT HOUSE

Our House will be built at 2506 Smallbrook Dr. in Harrison Hills Subdivision. Because of the lot contours, it will be built with a crawl space. It will be a 3 bedroom house.

The schedule below, starting the 18th is contingent on cooperative weather. I will keep you informed of any changes. If the schedule for Saturday lunches is a problem to anyone, let me know and I will arrange necessary swaps.

DATE	DAY	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
Mar. 11,13,15	Tue, Thur, Sat	Cut lumber & mark plates, build walls in warehouse,
Mar. 18,20,22	Tue,Thur,Sat	Clean and level crawl space, start floor system (on site)
Mar. 25, 27, 29	Tue,Thur,Sat	finish floor system (on site)
Apr. 1, 3, 5	Tue,Thur,Sat	Erect walls and trusses.
Apr. 8,10,12	Tue, Thur, Sat	Apply sheathing to walls, deck roof, install windows, ext. doors, hurricane clips, and deadwood
pr. 15,17,19	Tue, Thur, Sat	Install porch beams, barge rafters, facia, attic access, electrical rough-in, plumb-
ing,		HVAC rough-in by others)
Apr. 22,24,26	Tue, Thur, Sat	Install wall insulation, start vinyl siding, (sheetrock by sub)
Apr. 29,May.1,3	Tue, Thur, Sat	Paint walls, continue vinyl siding, install shutters
May 6,8,10	Tue, Thur, Sat	Clean floors and windows, install vinyl tile, landscape
May 13,15,17	Tue, Thur, Sat	Install and paint interior doors and trim, install cabinets, plumbing and electrical fixtures
May 20,22,24	Tue, Thur, Sat	Install closet hardware, window blinds, bathroom accessories
May 27,29,31	Tue, Thur, Sat	Catch up work, touch up paint, clean and wax floors
June 3,5,7	Tue, Thur, Sat	Work punch list, DEDICATION CEREMONY

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.

The Suggested lunch schedule is as follows. Please prepare for 20 people. Include drinks.

March 22: Nativity	March 29: First Christian	April 5: St. John AME
Apr. 12: St. Matthew	Apr. 19: United Church of Hsv.	Apr. 26: Aldersgate Methodist

May 3: First Presbyterian May 10: Church of the Nativity May 17: First Christian

May 24: St. John AME May 31: St. Matthew June 7: United Church of Hsv. (if needed)

Acolyte Schedule ~ March 2014

Please look over this service carefully as you might be scheduled more than once during this month of five Sundays. Thank you for your service to this important ministry!

Sunday March 2

8:45 A/M Nina Putt

C Maria Caprio, Alexander Young

T Joshua Huskey, Park Ellis

T Parker Sanders, Ellie Walker

S Windham Hunter

AS Katherine Hunter AS Evans Alison

5:00 Choral Evensong ** Arrive by 4:40 for instruction, service lasts right at an hour

Thurifer Karl Schneider C John Laney T Robert Walker T Van Dodgen

Sunday March 9

8:45A/M Clay Sherrill

C Karsten Correale, Kate Noble Hall

T Huston Morring, Britt Webber

T Forrest Webber, Van Dodgen

S Tindall Morring

AS Sidney Gunter

11:00 A/M Mike Ward

11:00 A/M Dorrie Nutt

T Jack Benton Stockton

T Cameron Pinson

S Powell Stockton

C Jordan Cozby, Foard Naumann

C Julie DiFranco, Emily Evans

T Elizabeth Evans, John Sadler Evans

T David DiFranco

S Steuart Evans

AS Bankston Creech

Sunday March 16

8:45 A/M Nina Putt

C Allie Starnes Cassidy Bates

T Robert Walker, Meredith Walker

T Sam Hartley, Sarah Whelden Hall

S Cassidy Bates

AS Palmer Ford

11:00 A/M Dorrie Nutt

C Mary Margaret Ragland, Scott Louis Miller

T Dylan Chenoweth

T Chloe Parsons

S Robert McCown

AS Sims Windham

Sunday March 23

8:45 A/M Dorrie Nutt

C Carter McDonald, Hall Blake Bryant C Patrick Quillen

T Ireland Braudaway,

T Margaret Bryant

S Franklin Aldag

AS Claire Quirk

11:00 A/M Mike Ward

T Evan Ward

T Evan Ellison

S Emily Ellison

AS Molly Ward

Sunday March 30

8:45 A/M Mike Ward

C Laurel Sharp

T Riley Kamelchuk

Margaret Foster, Leighton Luther

S Gillianne Sharp

AS Neill Luther

11:00 A/M Clay Sherrill

C John Chilton

T Anna Chilton

T Savannah Watson

S Allison Taylor

AS Lillie Markwalter



Save your attic treasures, cast off decorative items, and beloved trinkets! The choir is holding a Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 26th,

and wants your donations!

All proceeds benefit their trip to England in 2015.

Stewardship of Creation Tip...more about the importance of trees:

The Value of Trees to a Community

Trees provide more than beauty. They give us a sense of history and well-being, make our communities more livable, help connect us to nature, provide habitat for wildlife, and shade our homes, helping us save money on utility bills. Make plans now to plant a tree.

A single tree will absorb nearly a ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime. By shading your home, they help with energy efficiency. Trees also filter air, decreasing health risks caused by pollution.

The following are some statistics on just how important trees are in a community setting.

- "The net cooling effect of a young, healthy tree is equivalent to ten room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours a day." —USDA
- "One acre of forest absorbs six tons of carbon dioxide and puts out four tons of oxygen. This is enough to meet the annual needs of 18 people." —U.S. Department of Agriculture
- "There are about 60 to 200-million spaces along city streets where trees could be planted. This translates to the potential to absorb 33 million more tons of CO² every year, saving \$4 billion in energy costs." —National Wildlife Federation
- "Trees properly placed around buildings can reduce air conditioning needs by 30 percent and can save 20-50 percent in energy used for heating." —USDA Forest Service
- 'Trees can be a stimulus to economic development, attracting new business and tourism. Commercial retail areas are more attractive to shoppers, apartments rent more quickly, tenants stay longer, and space in a wooded setting is more valuable to sell or rent." —The Arbor Day Foundation
- "Healthy, mature trees add an average of 10 percent to a property's value." —USDA Forest Service
- "A mature tree can often have an appraised value of between \$1,000 and \$10,000." —Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers
- "The planting of trees means improved water quality, resulting in less runoff and erosion. This allows more recharging of the ground water supply. Wooded areas help prevent the transport of sediment and chemicals into streams." —USDA Forest Service
- "In laboratory research, visual exposure to settings with trees has produced significant recovery from stress within five minutes, as indicated by changes in blood pressure and muscle tension." —Dr. Roger S. Ulrich Texas A & M University

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, March 17.

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

Barbara Bonner

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

Lou Durnya Sr Warden
Frederick Lanier Jr Warden
Michele Hunter Clerk
Brenda Chynoweth Treasurer
Robert Mullins Finance Chair

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



Upcoming Baptism Date Saturday, April 19 (The Easter Vigil) at 7:30 pm. Contact Connie in the church office, 256-533-2455, to register.

Save the date:

March 22, 5:00 pm—solo recital by soprano SHONDA DIVINE.



Gems from the classical African American repertoire: compositions by Nkeiru Okoye, John Carter, How Leslie Adams, Undine Smith Moore and Betty Jackson King.

Curtis Lindsay, accompanist

2014 ALTAR FLOWER & EASTER Flower DEDICATION FORM

To dedicate Altar flowers for 2014, please complete this form and mail with your check (\$40 or \$20 for shared dedications) made payable to *Nativity Flower Guild* to: Andrea Vandervoort, 434 Locust Ave. Huntsville, AL 35801. If you have questions, you may call Andrea at 539-2673. Current available dates are: March 30. June 15, 22 & 29.

Flower dedications for Easter are being accepted from now until Sunday, April 13, for a contribution of \$20. Your check should be made out as above.

Date desired
Your Name
Phone #
Would you share a dedication? Do you wish to have your name listed in the bulletin? Please be specific - underline or circle your desired dedication below: All dedications read "To the glory of God and in loving memory ofin thanksgiving for
in celebration of
Name for this altar flower
dedication: