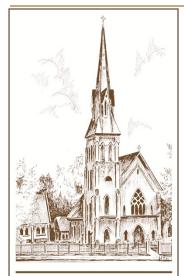
THE STEEPLE



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

February 19, 2014

My +

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.

Transformed by the Beauty of Holiness

The Psalmist says to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Episcopalians take this to heart by claiming that beautiful architecture, music, art, flowers, vestments, hangings, and liturgy are means of glorifying God. Our senses are fully engaged and drawn into the beauty of holiness when we gather as God's people at Nativity. The beauty we know through our worship is not only a means of making our praise to God the very best we can possibly offer, beauty draws us close to God, transforming us to reflect God's eternal truth in our own lives. Beauty and art inspire us to a greater and a nobler plane of living.

Beginning this Saturday evening and continuing through Lent to Easter, we have an extraordinary opportunity to be drawn into the beauty of holiness through the sublime and evocative art of Ludmila Pawlowska surrounding us in our sacred spaces at Nativity. We will welcome hundreds of people from the wider community over the next two months, sharing with them the opportunity to experience God through this stunning art displayed in our beautiful church. The exhibit is thoughtfully curated by placing traditional Russian icons with small to monumental works of art that express a deeper purpose and hope for our lives as we contemplate their meaning and placement in the church, chapel, and Bannister Room.

We owe a debt of gratitude to co-chairs Helen Vaughn and Virginia Caruso and their large team of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to bring this exhibit to life. The Nativity Trust, which provides funds for new and creative ministries reaching out into the community, along with corporate and individual sponsors, have made the exhibit possible. We are grateful that this gift made possible by faithful gifts of time, talent, and financial resources is ours to receive and share.

Ultimately, this wonderful gift challenges us to be aware of the benevolent power of God that animates the entire world with beauty and love; the power of God's eternal loveliness that fills our days and lives, not only when we come to "worship in the beauty of holiness." Ultimately, beauty is meant to transform us so we can transform the world.

Our lives can be so busy and full, this world can seem so broken and sinful, that we can forget the God-potential deep within us and for which we are created. We can forget that all people are created in God's image; we can forget how to love our neighbors as ourselves, forgetting that God is ever present with us and all people. The competitiveness of the world, our driven-ness for success and control, and even cynicism, make it easy to lose the knowledge of what is beautiful and enduring in life.

We Episcopalians have a wonderful prayer for those whose vocations and ministries assist us with our search for God through the beauty of art and music: O God, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven: Be ever present with your servants who seek through art and music to perfect the praises offered by your people on earth; and grant to them even now glimpses of your beauty, and make them worthy at length to behold it unveiled for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

There is so much beauty in this world, and God is its source and foundation. May our lives be transformed not only as we experience *Icons in Transformation* over the next two months, but as we, in gratitude, acknowledge and participate in God's beauty, sharing it with others as it is so abundantly available to us...and having glimpses of God's eternal beauty now, may we be found worthy to behold it unveiled for evermore.

So He Told Them This Parable: The Moral Lessons of Jesus

Wednesdays now through February 26 Ridley Hall 6:00 — 7:00 pm Led by: Rusty McCown

Centering Prayer for Busy People

In Bibb Chapel, led by Father Anderson and others from the Centering Prayer Ministry.

> Wednesdays now through February 26. 6 - 7:00 pm



Iust

On Sunday, February 23, we will gather in the Library and stuff meal packs for the homeless after the 11 o'clock service. Come and join the Stuff It! fellowship!

News from the Top of the Hill...

Don't miss the Feb. 25th Top of the Hill Gang Luncheon Program! (appetizers at 11:30 and lunch at 12:00 noon.)



Featured speaker: Heidi Foreman on how to "write" icons. In keeping with

the exhibition *Icons in*

Transformation, Heidi will show a number of icons she has created, and will walk us through the process with one particular icon of Madonna and Child. Heidi is the wife of Rev. Van Foreman. Heidi, studied under Mentone iconographer, Balpha Noojin, who will also be at Nativity in March to speak while *Icons in* Transformation is here.

Book your reservation by noon, February 24th.

SPONSORS SOUGHT FOR EPISCOPAL FAITH SEEKER'S CLASS IN 2014

Sponsors are members of Nativity who will encourage Seekers and be available for discussions about the faith we share as Episcopalians. Sponsors will attend seven classes with Seekers and participate in small group discussions (from February 23-April 6). If you would like to serve as a Sponsor, please e-mail Carol Ann Reagh at careagh@nativity-hsv.org or call her at the parish offices, 256-533-2455.



Children's Corner

Feb 23 - Cherub's sing at 8:45

- 4:00 pm BFF (Angel Lane)

March 4 — 5:30 pm Mardi Gras celebration and children's

for ages 3 and up parade

March 5 – 6:00 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: get upplugged!

July 14th-17th — VBS: 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/



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.

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 todav.

Cursillo weekends for 2014 will be held March 13-16 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

INTERCESSION REQUESTS

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

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

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

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

We pray for the departed:

Anders Kaufmann, father of Kristen Mosher; John Sullivan Yarbrough III, brother of Minnie Lois Neal; John David Wofford, M.D., father of Emily Wofford Ward and grandfather of Arthur and Paul Ward and Elizabeth Ward Cleveland

We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

2	2/20	John Hutchens	2/20	Julie DiFranco	2/21	Margo Doss	2/23	Olivia O'Halloran
2	2/23	Betsy Bryant	2/23	Foster Shrout	2/23	Susan Purvis	2/24	Jordan Copeland
:	3/1	Grant Howell	3/1	Hampton Shrout	3/1	Bailey Morrison	3/2	Justin Foscue
:	3/2	Jordan Cozby	3/4	Clay Walker, Jr.	3/5	Caroline Abney		

The Medical Mission Team for Haiti gives their thanks to generous people who contributed items for the trip, the mission and the people of Haiti. It was an amazing experience for each of us, but especially for two who were on their first trip. The people we served were very grateful. Over 400 men, women, children, infants and pregnant women were seen and treated. Many reading glasses were given out, as well as candy for the children, hand knit or crocheted hats for the babies, and toothbrushes for everyone! Thank you again for the team: Dr. Bob Serio, Deacon Mary Groff, Lisa Hardy, Debbie Collette, Margaret Devenish, Libby Potter and Cheryl Watts.





7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Imposition of Ashes
12:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Imposition of Ashes;
Soup Lunch

6:00 p.m.* Ash Wednesday Services (age-level designed)

Ash Wednesday Service for Children

We hope your children will join us for a "Child's Version" of Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, March 5th at 6:00. Children from Kindergarten through 5th grade are welcome to join us for a lesson and light supper. Younger kids may go to the nursery. For more information call Barbara Bonner, 256-533-2455 ext 211. Please make a reservation for the nursery.



2014 Pledges by Dollar Range

February 17, 2014 \$1.000 or < 90 \$1,001 --\$2,999.99 153 \$3.000 -- \$4.999.99 74 58 \$5,000 -- \$9,999.99 \$10,000 - \$14,999.99 13 \$15,000 - \$24,999.99 10 2 \$25,000 - \$39,999.99 \$40.000 or > 0 **Total Number of Pledges Total Dollar Amount of Pledges** \$1.305.408.47

Parish Financial Report								
		Peri	od	Ending 1/3	1/20	014		
				BUDGET for				
	CL	IRRENT MONTH		PERIOD		ACTUAL YTD		BUDGET YTD
Pledges Received	\$	106,842.14	\$	110,458.26	\$	106,842.14	\$	110,458.26
Plate	\$	9,359.83	\$	7,083.37	\$	9,359.83	\$	7,083.37
Other Revenues	\$	905.76	\$	8,798.26	\$	905.76	- 1	8,798.26
				,	\$,
TOTAL	\$	117,107.73	\$	126,339.89	11	7,107.73	\$	126,339.89
Diocesan, School								
of Theology, &								
Outreach	\$	17,072.27	\$	25,827.52	\$	17,072.27	\$	25,827.52
Personnel	\$	77,970.56	\$	68,320.87	\$	77,970.56	\$	68,320.87
Other Expenses	\$	22,544.09	\$	32,191.50	\$	22,544.09	\$	32,191.50
TOTAL	\$	117,586.92	\$	126,339.89	\$	117,586.92	\$	126,339.89
NET		(470.40)	•		•	(470.40)	•	
NET	P	(479.19)	Ψ	-	\$	(479.19)	\$	-

Darich Financial Poport

Stewardship of Creation Tip Plant a Tree!

Average Pledge

First proclaimed in 1887 by Alabama Governor Thomas Seay, in 1975, the Alabama State Legislature passed an act des-



ignating the last full week in February as Arbor Week.

Trees provide beauty give us a sense of history an

\$3.263.53

Trees provide beauty, 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. A single tree will absorb nearly a ton of carbon dioxide over its lifetime. Trees also filter air, decreasing health risks caused by pollution.

The best times to plant in Alabama, especially for balled and burlapped or bare root trees, are fall and winter.

Have a soil analysis done. It's only \$7. Find soil testing information at your county Extension office or visit the Auburn University Soil Testing Lab website at www.aces.edu/anr/soillab.

Before digging, always call 811 to locate water and utility lines.

Plant trees in large, wide holes rather than in narrow, deep ones. Do not dig the hole deeper than the root ball of the tree being planted.

Mix any soil amendments, such as organic matter, topsoil, or lime, *into the entire planting area*.

When your hole is dug, spread the root system out laterally. Cut circling roots that could grow around and girdle the tree trunk in the future.

Watering is critically important. When a tree is first planted, add water slowly every day or two at a rate of about 2 gallons per inch of trunk diameter. After a few weeks, decrease the frequency but increase the volume and expand it to a wider area to encourage widespreading roots. You may need to water for six months or even a year, depending on the size of the tree and the time of year you plant.

Inspire your friends, family and children to appreciate trees - in your own yard and neighborhood, and your community's trees. What you pass on to others will last a lifetime.

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)

Life After Loss: A Journey to Healing

Tuesdays, 3-4:30 PM
February 25-April 15
Brookdale Place, Carl T. Jones Drive SE
Facilitated by Rev. Carl Malm
Center for Loss, Grief and Change

Open to the Public at no charge Reservations requested (256-881-6111). Light refreshments will be served.

Upcoming Baptism Date March 2nd at the 11:00 service. Contact Connie in the church office to register.



Youth Notes!

EYC Church of the Nativity

Special EYC Events Coming Up

Tennessee Valley Episcopal Soccer Cup

Sunday, March 2nd, 2014 from 2-5 PM at Palmer Park in Madison

The youth groups at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in South Huntsville and St. John's Episcopal Church in Decatur have both challenged Nativity's youth group to a soccer tournament! All Nativity 7th-12th graders are invited to play on the team. To sign up to play, email William. The youth ministers at both churches are talking a big game, so we need a ton of people to show up and play so we can bring home the trophy to show off in our youth room! No previous soccer experience needed, just a good attitude, a

Actors Needed! No Experience Necessary!

willingness to have fun, and some athletic shoes. Snacks and transportation will be provided to and from Palmer Park.

This year, the youth group is going to participate in the Children's Ash Wednesday service by acting out a skit of Mary anointing Jesus with oil. Actors are need to play Jesus, Mary, Martha, Lazarus, and Judas, as well as unnamed disciples. To volunteer for a part, email William. If you don't volunteer, you're going to get volunteered! Please be at the church at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, March 5th to get ready!

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!

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!
- 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.

ICONS in Transformation COMING to NATIVITY OPENING RECEPTION

Saturday Night, February 22nd from 6:00 pm —8:00 pm Stunning Display of over 90 pieces of Art By acclaimed abstract artist

Ludmila Pawlowska

The featured artist, will be in attendance and give a short talk





February 23 -April 20

Exhibition Hours

Tuesday through Friday
11:00 am until 3:00 pm
Saturday
1:00 pm until 3:00 pm

MUSIC FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The Flint River Brass Quintet

Presents a concert, "Passports to the World"

Featuring music by composers from Norway, Russia, England, America, and Spain

Saturday, February 22, 5:00 pm.

Attendees are also invited to the Grand Opening reception for

ICONS in Transformation at 6:00pm in Ridley Hall

Church of the Nativity, 208 Eustis Ave 256-533-2455 nativity-hsv.org

			WORSHIP SCHEDULE Ma	rch, 2014, publishe	ed 2/19/14			
			SUNDAY, March 2, Last	Sunday after the Epiphan	1			
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM (Robison – out)		ector	Intercessor		
7:45 am	McCown				ea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett		
8:45 am	Anderson	Groff	Joan East, Don Lambert	Ba	ankston Creech	Martha Joffrion		
11:00 am		Groff	Hanns Billmayer, Deborah Baker	М	ike Innes, Jordan Cozby	Rich Goodwin		
		•		DAY, March 5, HE				
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		Lector			
7:00 am	McCown	McCown	Mary Hendricks	Jo	John Hendricks			
12:00 no	on Anderson	McCown	Marilyn Lands, Deborah Baker	EI	aine Hamner			
6:00 pm	Anderson	McCown	Lane Mickle, Robert Dunn	Le	ee Hicklen, Allen Daniels			
•		•		/, March 6, HE	,			
Service	Celebrant	Preacher		•				
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8:45 am	McCown	Anderson	Michal Turner, Charlie Warren	St	acy Moon	Clay Sherrill		
11:00 am		Anderson	Marilyn Lands, Don Askins		ary Johnson, Sally Ann Culver	Rhonwyn Watson		
				Y, March 12, HE	, ,	. ,		
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8:45 am	Anderson	McCown	Robert Dunn, Virginia Kobler		assidy Bates	Jim Douthit		
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6:00 pm	_	erson	Sally Ann Culver					
0.00 pm	Allu	CISOII		, Third Sunday in Lent				
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8:45 am	Anderson	Anderson	·		9			
11:00 am	Foreman	Anderson	Rich Goodwin, Ronnie Rogers		II DOUTHIT, DIANNE NETTIES	Adalene Bledsoe		
Comiles	Calabrant	Dresslan		Y, March 26, HE				
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM Many Handricks					
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Service	Celebrant	Preacher	Virginia Kahlar					
6:00 pm		BD	Virginia Kobler	Facustle Consideration Laure				
C		Ducasi		Fourth Sunday in Lent	-4	I Intone		
Service		Preacher	LEM (Anderson & Robison – out)		ector	Intercessor		
	Celebrant		Lea Ann Barnett		ea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett		
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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 3.

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



2014 ALTAR 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. April 13.

PLEASE PRINT	ALL INFORMATION,	, THANK YOU.
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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: