

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

April 16, 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.

Bonnie Mixon McCrickard to serve as Associate Rector



I am thrilled to announce that Bonnie Mixon McCrickard has accepted my call to serve as Associate Rector for Outreach, Family Ministries, and Young Adult Ministries. Bonnie will graduate on May 9 from the School of Theology at Sewanee. Her professors and the Deans highly commend her as a bright, energetic, organized and compassionate person who brings many gifts to the priesthood. While at the School of Theology, Bonnie served as President of the seminary student body. After ten months, Nativity will again have three full-time clergy when Bonnie officially begins on June 15.

She will preach on June 22, and we will welcome her with a Nativity reception that Sunday.

Bonnie is a candidate for Holy Orders from the Diocese of Tennessee and, God willing, will be ordained a transitional deacon at Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday, June 7. Her ordination to the priesthood will take place approximately six months later here at Nativity.

Bonnie is no stranger to Huntsville having grown up in the Rocket City the daughter of an aerospace engineer and an Episcopal Church music director at St. Stephen's Church. She is a graduate of Huntsville High School. Bonnie has been serving the church in various roles since she was a young child: from acolyte, to Peer Minister for the Canterbury Students' Association in college, to Christian Education Director at her home parish, St. Philip's in Nashville, Tennessee.

Bonnie holds an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Trinity University in San Antonio (1994) and a Master's Degree in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis (1996). She also received a degree in Religion from Belmont University in 2009, and she will complete her M.Div. from The School of this May.

Bonnie and her husband Matthew, who is also a Huntsville native, have been married 14 years. Matthew holds a doctoral degree in education and is a higher education administrator and adjunct faculty member at Belmont University. Prior to attending seminary, Bonnie and Matthew were active members at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Nashville, serving as Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Eucharistic Visitors, Lay Readers, diocesan convention delegates, and in other leadership roles within the parish.

As Associate Rector for Outreach, Family Ministries, and Young Adults, Bonnie will provide pastoral and administrative oversight to our ministries with families including Christian Formation for Children and Youth, our Parents' Ministry, and Nursery ministry. Bonnie will work with William Blackerby, Barbara Bonner, Cassie Chenoweth, and Audrey Clayton, helping them with the vision and direction of these ministries along with the Kid's and Youth Councils. She will be responsible for Baptismal Instruction for Parents and Godparents and Confirmation preparation for Youth (supporting William Blackerby in his efforts).

Bonnie will provide leadership to our Outreach and Mission Ministries, including local, diocesan, and international outreach and mission efforts. She will also help us reorganize our Young Adults' Ministry including opportunities for formation and fellowship. With our Associate for Parish Life, and the Children's and Youth ministry directors, she will help plan the Parish Weekend that takes place every spring. She will support our lector ministry. This is in addition to her sharing in pastoral care, preaching and worship leadership with the other clergy!

Please join me in welcoming Bonnie and Matthew to Nativity!

Andy +

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

HOLY WEEK & THE TRIDUUM



Wednesday in Holy Week ~ April 16 *Judas' Betrayal of Jesus*

12:00 noon Holy Eucharist, Bibb Chapel

6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday ~ April 17 *Jesus the Servant*

**6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar (with Incense)

6:00 p.m. Children's Service and Agape Meal in Bibb Chapel

**Nursery *by reservation only* to 256-533-2455

8:00 – 11:00 p.m. Prayer Vigil, Bibb Chapel

Good Friday ~ April 18 *The Crucifixion of Jesus*

6:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Prayer Vigil, Bibb Chapel

11:30 a.m. **Special music**

12:00 noon Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday ~ April 19 *Waiting for Jesus' Resurrection*

7:30 p.m. Great Vigil of Easter; Holy Eucharist,

Baptism (with Incense)

Easter Day ~ April 20

The Risen Lord Gives Us New Life

7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Bibb Chapel

*8:45 a.m. Festal Holy Eucharist and Flowering of Mite Box Cross

10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt for children to age 10

Please gather in Ridley Hall for instructions

*11:00 a.m. Festal Holy Eucharist (with Incense)

Services are held in Church Nave unless noted

*indicates nursery available



Thanks to the all-volunteer choir for their amazing and wonderful contribution to Lent, Holy week, and Easter morning. We would not have the beauty in Liturgy and worship we all look forward to without our fine and generous choir members!

Children's Corner

Save the Dates: **May 2-4** Parish Weekend:

get unplugged!

July 14th-17th — VBS : Under Construction-

Register online now!

April 17—6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Agape
Feast for ages K-5th grade,
Ridley Hall

April 20, 10:15 Easter Egg Hunt,
Bring your basket!

The Mite Box: A small box for receiving gifts of gratitude. Each day during Lent, add coins to your box. If you haven't received a mite box yet, you can still get one at church. **Decorate your box with flowers and bring to Ridley Hall @ 8:45 on Easter Sunday, April 20th.**

Sundays at 10:00am—No classes Easter, classes resume April 27.

Wednesdays at 5:00pm—No choir this week, choir resumes April 23.

Camp McDowell Summer registration now open
<http://campmcdowell.dioala.org/>

Upcoming Baptism Dates

Sunday, May 18 at 10:00 am (Confirmation-Bishop's visit),

Sunday, June 8 10:00 am (Pentecost) .

Contact Connie in the church office , 256-533-2455, to register.

PARISHIONER DEATH NOTIFICATION

If you would like to receive an email notification when a parishioner dies, please contact Connie in the church office at: cgadomski@nativity-hsv.org

Friends of Music Present...

Michael Brown, Violin

&

Mac Phillips, Piano



Sunday, May 4, 2014 at 4:00 pm

INTERCESSION REQUESTS

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Lynn Jones, Jack Little, Gene Sullivan, Linda Browning, Barry Morton, Bess Wallace, Tom Robinson, Nancy Colin Swenson, Harry Beazley, RuthAnn Haymes, Carla King, Suzanne Johnson, 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; US Navy, Jesse Teal

We pray for the departed Louis Amis

We give thanks for birthdays of our children: (apologies for omitting the late March, early April birthdays)

4/16 Foster Fleming	4/16 Austill Baker	4/17 Ava Allen	4/18 Bradford Hall
4/18 Alex Ahearn	4/18 Mary Ellis Alison	4/18 Madelyn Alison	4/19 Luke McClendon
4/22 Lily Cantey	4/22 Sellers Rawson	4/23 Clara Williams	4/26 Kaia Lightfoot
4/27 Jackson Anglin	4/29 Brooks Whitehead	4/30 Thomas Aldag	5/1 Sydney Suggs
5/2 Gabriells Lightfoot	5/3 Stella Albritton	5/7 Christopher Laney	



Mission Guild will meet on Monday, **April 28**(note change of date), at 10 am in Joffrion Hall Library. A very interesting program "Living With Alzheimer's Disease" will be presented by Marsha Farrell, Education Nurse at Hospice Family Care. Hostesses are Karen Scriven and Mary Vann. Guests are welcome. Please bring Bingo prizes for the Aquarius Club.

Parish Weekend is just around the corner!

The registration form is available on the Nativity web-site. Sign-up **NOW!**

<http://www.nativity.dioala.org/>

May 2-4, 2014
get unplugged
@Camp McDowell

ICONS in Transformation



The Metropolitan Opera **HD LIVE**

A chance to see Susanna Phillips on the big screen ...

There are two *Met Opera Live in HD* performances in April, and Susanna will be in each of them. They will be showing at the Hollywood 18 movie theater on Memorial Parkway SW, starting at 11:55 a.m.

- Saturday, April 26, in Mozart's *Così fan Tutti* as Fioriligi. There will also be an encore performance on Wednesday, April 30, at 6:30 p.m.

The Top of the Hill Gang will meet at Gibson's for breakfast at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 26, and go to the opera afterwards. No reservations required. Just join us for breakfast, Mozart, and Susanna on April 26th.



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

Deadline to sign-up is May 1.

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. For more information, please visit Nativity's web site or contact the Church office.

NATIVITY OUTREACH

STOP HUNGER NOW!

On Saturday, May 11th the Outreach Committee is sponsoring a Meal Packaging Event beginning at 12:30 in the parish hall. **We need 35-40 people to make a commitment to help package the meals.** We will package **10,000** meals in two hours. **This is a fun, hands on mission project that is suitable for all ages - children, youth, families, adults, everyone!**

Stop Hunger Now's meal packaging program is a volunteer-based program that coordinates the streamlined packaging of highly nutritious dehydrated meals comprised of rice, soy, vegetables, flavoring and 21 essential vitamins and minerals. *The meals are easily transported to crisis-burdened areas or supplied to school feeding programs around the world. The meals cost only \$0.25 per meal to create.*

HAP Food Pantry Nativity is one of the 80 area Churches who support The Huntsville Assistance Program. We are the only Church that has a monthly food collection. The pantry is always very low on food by the end of the month. Your donations every first Sunday make a difference to those families who would otherwise have to return when more food is available. Our Outreach also supports HAP with a monthly contribution of \$1200 per month. This helps provide rent, mortgage, medical and utility assistance. The brutal Winter was very difficult for families that live in rental properties with little or no insulation, in particular, mobile homes. Thanks to the continued support of Nativity and other member churches, HAP provided \$60,000 in assistance between January and March. Many Nativity Parishioners support HAP with monetary donations in addition to our food collection. You are the personification of Matthew 24!



HAP Food Pantry Needs

Dried beans, spaghetti, toilet paper, peanut butter, canned fruits.

**MAY I
HELP ?
YOU**

We need to collect 75 **LARGE** Boys Swimsuits beginning on **Sunday May 4th** up through **June 1** for Sawyerville.



Intensive CENTERING PRAYER Retreat May 2-4

The Benedictine Sisters Retreat Center in Cullman and Contemplative Outreach Birmingham are sponsoring a Centering Prayer retreat to be held in Cullman. This retreat, designed for those who have already attended an introductory retreat or workshop, will focus on developing further the discipline of Centering Prayer, a form of Christian prayer rooted in the ancient Christian contemplative tradition. The cost for the weekend is \$210/person for a private room and includes lodging, meals, and linens. For more information or to register, please contact the Benedictine Sisters Retreat Center at (256) 734-8302 or by e-mail at retreats@shmon.org.

Dining With Friends

Please join in hosting Nativity's Dining With Friends annual fundraiser for the AIDS Action Coalition. This year's theme is *The Loaves and Fishes, Southern Style*, that is, hush puppies and fried catfish. Our fish fry is scheduled for Friday, June 6th.

Each host is asked to contribute to cover expenses such as food, printing, and setup. Additionally, hosts who attend should also purchase the Nativity's dinner / ACC Dessert Reception ticket.

If you will join us in hosting the 2014 Nativity dinner please let me know early; plans are in the works and your participation makes the event possible.





EYC Church of the Nativity

Youth Notes!

Report from the Inaugural EYC Putt-Putt Masters



On a beautiful, warm Sunday afternoon in April, 10 youth and two chaperones gathered for the Inaugural EYC Putt-Putt Masters. Three foursomes played the challenging “Alabama Amazon” course at Southern Adventures, which wends its way through caves, up and down hills, and around a pirate ship. The first several holes didn’t pose all that much of a challenge to the golfers, but by the 10th hole, two clear leaders began to emerge.

At the close of the afternoon, Sam, a guest from First United Methodist, had the low score, 47 (5 under par) while Nativity’s own Alec Bonner came in at a close second with a score of 49.

This Wednesday, April 16th

5:00 PM—Youth Sunday Music Rehearsal. Meet outside the library in Joffrion Hall.

6:00 PM — Stations of the Cross. All youth and their friends and family are invited! Meet in Ridley Hall.



The Church Office will be closed Monday, April 21.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE May, 2014, published 4/16/14

THURSDAY, May 1, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher
6:00 pm	Anderson	Don Lambert

SUNDAY, May 4; 3rd Sunday of Easter; Parish Weekend

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	(McCown, Green – out)	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Anderson	Anderson	John Hendricks	John Hendricks	John Hendricks
8:45 am	Anderson	Anderson	Michal Turner, Bob Serio, Lee Hicklen, Mike Ward	Lane Mickle	Clay Sherrill
11:00 am	Anderson	Anderson	Rob Cozby, Sally Ann Culver, Walter Thames, Ronnie Rogers	Robbie Shafer, Ron Hogan	Ed Vaughn

WEDNESDAY, May 7, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12:00 noon	Anderson		Cheryl Watts

THURSDAY, May 8, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher
6:00 pm	McCown	Don Askins

SUNDAY, May 11; 4th Sunday of Easter

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Anderson	Youth	Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett
8:45 am	McCown	Youth	Lewie Bates, Joan East	Meredith Walker	Club 56
11:00 am	Anderson	Youth	Hanns Billmayer, Deborah Baker	Pamela Briggs, Ted Briggs	Youth

WEDNESDAY, May 14, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12:00 noon	McCown		Marilyn Lands

THURSDAY, May 15, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher
6:00 pm	Groff	Sally Ann Culver

SUNDAY, May 18; 5th Sunday of Easter – Bishop's Visit

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
8:00 am	Anderson	Bishop	Charlie Warren	Lee Hicklen	Melissa Kirkindall
10:00 am	Bishop	Bishop	Peter Cobun	Rachel Quillen, Jordan Cozby	Rhonwyn Watson

WEDNESDAY, May 21, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12:00 noon	Anderson		Joan East

THURSDAY, May 22, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher
6:00 pm	McCown	Virginia Kobler

SUNDAY, May 25; 6th Sunday of Easter

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
8:00 am	Anderson	McCown	Don Lambert, Warren Vann	Jim Douthit	Lee Hicklen
10:00 am	Anderson	McCown	Robert Dunn, Joan East	Stacy Moon, Buddy Moon	Don Askins

WEDNESDAY, May 28, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12:00 noon	McCown		Don Askins

THURSDAY, May 29, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher
6:00 pm	Anderson	Don Lambert

USHERS

8:00/8:45	Bill Starnes, Hall Bryant, Allen Daniels, Andy Kelly, Pat Sampson, Clay Sherrill, Ward Wilson
10:00/11:00	Hanns Billmayer, Veneta Billmayer, Madalyn Hicks, Don Askins, Ernie Thomas, Susan Thomas, John Lewis

ALTAR GUILD

3	Caffey Litkenhous, Beth Pugh, Wanda Cobb, Emily Moody, Mary Johnson
10	Sue Johnson, Debbie Joyner, Connie Stephenson, Louise Reynolds, Sophia Rowe
17	Sara Little, Gail Brown, Laura Innes, Jewell Reynolds, Linda Watts, Anne Carter
24	Judy Vann, Rose Anne Shearer, Nancy Colin, Alice Lanier
31	Renée Elliott, Lea Ann Barnett, Judy Heacock, Elaine Calhoun, Suzy Naumann

CLERGY ON CALL SCHEDULE

April 28 – May 4	May 5 – 11	May 12 – 18	May 19 – 25	May 26 – June 1
Anderson	McCown	Anderson	McCown	Anderson

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR NEXT CHURCH DIRECTORY!

We have contracted Guide Book Publishing to publish our church directory that will be updated and delivered directly to your homes annually. This book will be the Who, What, When, Where, Why and How of our Church. The book is being provided at no cost to our church. Local businesses are being solicited to advertise in the book. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please **call Amy Baxter at the church office, 256-533-2455.**

Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show that 92.1% of families would rather patronize a Guide book advertiser over a non-advertiser. It "will pay" to advertise in our new Guide Book and Directory.



2014 Pledges by Dollar Range April 15, 2014	
\$1,000 or <	97
\$1,001 -- \$2,999.99	163
\$3,000 -- \$4,999.99	74
\$5,000 -- \$9,999.99	60
\$10,000 - \$14,999.99	13
\$15,000 - \$24,999.99	10
\$25,000 - \$39,999.99	2
\$40,000 or >	0
Total Number of Pledges 419	
Total Dollar Amount of Pledges \$1,338,318.47	
Average Pledge \$3,194.08	

Parish Financial Report Period Ending 3/31/2014				
	CURRENT MONTH	BUDGET for PERIOD	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD
Pledges Received	\$ 98,463.33	\$ 110,458.34	\$ 303,325.71	\$ 331,374.94
Plate	\$ 13,349.24	\$ 7,083.33	\$ 31,845.57	\$ 21,250.03
Other Revenues	\$ 4,958.58	\$ 8,798.34	\$ 13,453.34	\$ 26,394.94
TOTAL	\$ 116,771.15	\$ 126,340.01	\$ 348,624.62	\$ 379,019.91
Diocesan, School of Theology, & Outreach	\$ 19,013.59	\$ 25,827.68	\$ 59,655.52	\$ 77,482.88
Personnel	\$ 57,700.07	\$ 68,320.83	\$ 200,886.99	\$ 204,962.53
Other Expenses	\$ 36,758.59	\$ 32,191.50	\$ 89,212.41	\$ 96,574.50
TOTAL	\$ 113,472.25	\$ 126,340.01	\$ 349,754.92	\$ 379,019.91
NET	\$ 3,298.90	\$ -	\$ (1,130.30)	\$ -

2014 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN GOAL WITHIN REACH

**419 Households pledge
\$1,339,000**

**GOAL: 450 Pledges Sought
for \$1,380,000**

**31 Pledges totaling \$41,000
gets us there!**

Have you made a commitment to Flourish in Faith? 419 Nativity households have generously committed to Flourishing in Faith by pledging to God's mission and ministry at Nativity in 2014. Over 850 households identify Nativity as home. In order to meet our goals for 2014 and do all that the Vestry hopes to accomplish, we hope 31 of the 400+ households who have not made a pledge will step out in faith and pledge. **We are only \$41,000 shy of the goal!**

2014 ALTAR FLOWER

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.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION, THANK YOU.

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 of...in thanksgiving for...
 in celebration of...**

Name for this altar flower

dedication: _____

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, May 5.

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 Gadowski
Worship & Ministry Assistant

Amy Baxter
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

Nativity Choir Rummage Sale

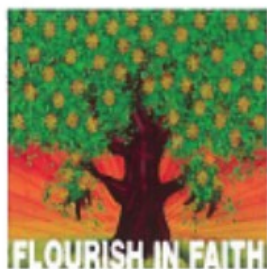
Saturday, April 26th,

Donate items for this sale to raise funds for their 2015 trip to England.

Drop offs and contributions for the sale are welcome next week, Tuesday April 22, through Friday April 25.

It is important to contact Suzanne in advance and not show up without some advance notice. This is a choir event, not hosted by the Nativity Office staff . . Thank you!

EMAIL Suzanne, suzanne.purtee@gmail.com



*My pledge for the support of God's kingdom in
2014 through the mission and ministry of the
Church of the Nativity, Episcopal*

Total pledge for 2014 \$ _____

To be paid: () weekly; () monthly; () quarterly; () annually

I/we would like pledge envelopes for 2014: () yes () no

Name _____ e-mail _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

I/we have remembered Nativity in my/our will _____