

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

September 4, 2014



CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY,
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

Worship Schedule

(* Nursery available)

SUNDAY

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.

RenewalWorks: Taking the Next Step of Spiritual Growth

What would it mean for you to take the next step along the journey of spiritual growth? What tools do you need to grow closer to Jesus, to know him and to know the ways and purposes of God's Kingdom Jesus proclaimed in his life, death and resurrection? Our individual and community spiritual growth is a priority in the church...it gets down to the basics of increasing our love of God so we can increase our love of neighbor.

Before we were called Christians, members of the early church were described as people of the way. They were on the move. Because their life in community was so dynamic and was so clearly marked by love of God and neighbor, these first Christians transformed the world around them. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read that the church grew as outsiders witnessed the ways that Christians lived in community. People said: "See how they love one another. I want to be part of something like that." As Christians grew and changed, the world was transformed in remarkable ways.

It's all about movement and growth. As St. Paul guided the first Christian communities, he spoke of those who grow in maturity in Christ, some only able to digest the basics, others able to chew on meatier stuff. He had in mind the vision of a spiritual progression, a spiritual continuum. The letter to the Ephesians describes the Christian community as the body of Christ, growing, dynamic, changing, evolving, building itself up in love.

Growth, change and movement are part of the Christian story from day one. For Episcopalians, sometimes jokingly described as the frozen chosen, there is a call to spiritual growth reflected in *The Book of Common Prayer*. It is captured in the baptismal service, as sponsors for young candidates pledge to help a child grow into the full stature of Christ. That's not a bad aspiration for all of us.

Your Vestry and I have enthusiastically endorsed a way for us to engage spiritual growth as a parish, **RenewalWorks**. On Thursday, we are mailing a letter to every household inviting you to participate in what I believe is the most important work we are undertaking as God's people in my almost 12 years as serving as Rector of our vibrant parish.

The purpose of **RenewalWorks** to foster spiritual growth and discernment by providing an opportunity for all parishioners to reflect on the extent to which the church inspires and supports them in their spiritual journeys by taking an anonymous, on-line Spiritual Life Survey. A leadership team of 25 parishioners will spend time over the next three months reviewing the background of this monumental work and developing guidelines about where we need to go to challenge us to grow spiritually through worship, Bible reading and study, personal prayer, and service to people in need.

I often ask that people give to God's work through our parish in a variety of ways. Before our Stewardship Campaign asking for a return of your financial blessings, your Vestry and I ask that you give about 30 minutes of your time in the next 3 weeks to take this survey. At Nativity, we welcome you wherever you are on your spiritual journey...whether you are exploring, experiencing some growth, deepening your walk with Christ, or completely centered, let's all commit to taking the next step!

Andy +

RenewalWorks™

Be on the lookout for the

RenewalWorks Survey

going live **Sunday, September 7th**

The Survey will be open till Monday, September 29th

The purpose of **RenewalWorks** is to provide an opportunity for each member of our congregation to discern the extent to which the church inspires and supports people in their spiritual journeys, to challenge the congregation and to enhance the spiritual lives of its members through spiritual practices such as regular worship,

Bible reading and study, personal prayer,

and service to people in need.



R

**You are invited to the
Habitat for Humanity House
DEDICATION CEREMONY
September 6 at 10:30 am
2506 Smallbrook Circle**

DAY OF SERVICE AND UNITY

On the International Day of Peace



On Saturday, September 20, the Interfaith Mission Services (IMS) will sponsor the annual Day of Service and Unity in Madison County. This year it will be held in conjunction with the International World Day of Peace.

Twelve years ago IMS began coordinating the efforts of the faith community encouraging all different faiths, cultures, and backgrounds to come together on behalf of the deserving agencies in our community.

Men, women, boys and girls will work at various organizations on the *Day of Service and Unity on the International Day of Peace* sprucing up, painting, pulling weeds, cutting grass and whatever the targeted organizations are in need of. Won't you come out and join us! Projects will vary in terms of skills and exertion; however there will be something for everyone to do regardless of age.



Sunday, September 14th is

Food Truck Sunday & Inreach Ministry Fair

Find out how you can become more involved in Nativity's various INREACH MINISTRIES and don't forget your money to purchase lunch from one of our fantastic local vendors:

What's for Supper (Walter Thames)
Lyn's Gracious Goodness (Leelee Wigington)
Food Fighters (Jason Lafferty)
Earth & Stone (Tina Ford)
Suzy's Ice Pops (Suzy Naumann)
Carlton's (Ashley Carlton)

The Ministry Fair will be open from 10:45am – 1:00pm

Children's Corner

Sept 3 Children's chapel music leader meeting, 6pm, Banister RM

Sept 7 Sunday school resumes:

3-kindergarten - Godly Play

1-3rd grade - Workshop Rotation - People of Great Faith

4th - Meeting Jesus

5th&6th - Bible Study with a tween twist

Wednesdays - Children's choirs

Save the date:

Sept 28 St. Francis day, annual Pet Blessing

Contact Barbara Bonner: bbonner@nativity-hsv.org,

The Spiritual Development Committee presents

WEDNESDAYS IN OCTOBER

"Challenges of Big Churches—How do we stay in Community?"

5:15 pm Dinner (by reservation, 256-533-2455)

6:00 pm Guest Speaker

Oct. 1 — The Very Rev. Andrew Pearson, Dean of Cathedral of the Advent, Birmingham

Oct. 8 — The Rev. Glenn Conner, Sr. Pastor, First United Methodist Church, Huntsville

Oct. 15 — The Rev. Dr. Glenda Curry, Rector of All Saints Episcopal Church, Homewood, AL

Oct. 22 — The Rev. Hal Oakley, Pastor, Covenant Presbyterian Church -- Huntsville

INTERCESSION REQUESTS

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Aubrey Tycer, Robert Corriveau, Linda Giardini Drzycimski, David Davies, Tazewell Mackey, Liam Mackey, Lea Ellison, Sue Campbell, Ann Garnett, RuthAnn Haymes. Tom Robinson, Lynn Jones, Barry Morton, Betty Ann Council, Lorene Dilworth, Bill Dilworth, Gene Sullivan, Nancy Colin Swenson, Harry Beazley, Carla King, Eileen Sullivan, Elsie Olsen, Leigh Wahl, Jennie Coe, Isabelle Towry

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military: US Navy, Jesse Teal

We pray for the departed:

We give thanks for the birth of a child a daughter, Frances Ryan Fortner, born August 19th, to Mark & Susie Fortner

We pray for Nativity pilgrims attending Cursillo #194 at Camp McDowell, September 11-14: Jay Epps, Rebecca Epps, Bonnie McCrickard, Bob Thompson, and Connie Ruth Thompson. Also, for Margaret Devenish and Tom Devenish who will be serving of staff.

We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

9/6 Patrick Ahearn, Jr. 9/8 Tate Dollman
9/9 Emma Baggette 9/12 Micah Watts
9/15 Lillian Retzke

9/9 Mary Ceil McClung
9/13 Parker Ellis

9/9 Samantha Rowe
9/14 Sara Hutchens

Join the WEDDING GUILD

The Wedding Guild is looking for new members! Members of the guild work with brides before the rehearsal, assist the clergy with the rehearsal, and coordinate preparations prior to the wedding service. The guild is the welcoming committee, not only for the couple being married at Nativity, but also for their families and guests, many of whom are first-time visitors to our sacred space. Our hope is that everyone associated with each wedding will leave saying what a beautiful experience they had. To learn more about our ministry, call the Wedding Guild chair, Prentice White at 256-665-0561.

Upcoming Baptism Date

Contact Mother Bonnie to schedule, 256-533-2455.
Sunday, All Saints' Sunday, November 2 (deadline is Oct. 6).

SAVE THE DATE: Parish Weekend at Camp McDowell will be April 17-19, 2015

SAVE THE DATE
October 24-26, 2014
for

CAMP DAY at Camp McDowell

Come enjoy the day, or come for the entire weekend. There will be many opportunities to explore Camp McDowell and the wonderful programs and resources "God's Backyard" has to offer. Stay tuned for more information and how to sign up. It will be fun for the everyone!



**HAP Food
Pantry
Needs**

September 7 — canned meat, rice, fruit, bar soap, cereal, soup, canned veggies. Thanks for your generosity!



**Thursdays
Through October**
4:00 pm—7:00 pm

CHILDREN'S AND ADULT SUNDAY FORMATION CLASSES FOR FALL

Children's classes begin September 7

Godly Play ages 3 — Kindergarten

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

YOUTH CLASSES

• **7th & 8th Grade** - Second Floor Ridley

• **9th Grade/Confirmation**—Confirmation Room
(2nd Floor Joffrion)

• **10th-12th Grade** - EYC LOFT

Adult Classes begin September 7

The Book Class—Sept. 7 to Nov. 23rd

Heroes and Heretics by Thomas Cahill

Class Leaders: Evie Spearman, Rick Wilhoite, Ted Briggs,
Glenn Watson, and Buddy Moon

Place: Bibb Chapel

Creating a Spiritual Community for You and Your Family

Ridley Hall – Dr. Pat Quirk and Dr. Margaret Bibb and
guest speakers

Sept. 7 – Nov. 23rd.

The Breakfast Club –Joffrion Hall 2 West – Sept. 7th

The Signature of Jesus by Brennan Manning. Order on
Amazon.

Amy Creech, Father Rusty McCown, and Emily Rodgers

The Zimmerman Bible Study Class The Apostle Paul's influence in the church's growth and Development: Acts to Romans. (Fr. Anderson—Aug-Nov) This is in keeping with his trip to Turkey. The class will continue in Dec. with the wrap up of Matthew and start on Isaiah. Class Leaders: Elise Taylor, Gaines Watts, Jim Douthit, Virginia Kobler.

Place: Joffrion Library

The Social Justice Class

Place: The Banister room

Leaders: Marilyn Lands, Melissa Kirkindall, Jackie Sheldon
and Bill Starnes

Art and Literature –Advent Series

Ridley Hall – December 7, 14, and 21

Leaders: Lynne Berry, Jeannie Robison, Walter Thames

Ladies! The Good Book Bible Study will have the first meeting of the Fall Session on Wednesday, September 20 at 1 pm in the Church Library. The Study will be the Book of Acts. Leaders include, Evie Spearman, , Susan Morley, Marty Askins and Jeanie Marsh. New-comers are most welcome. For more information, contact Carole Sue Goodwin at 256 534 4477

Morley and Me--Looking at Today's World with Jesus

*A men's Bible Study/Discussion led by Charles Morley
and Rusty McCown with Lane Tutt's permission*

During our time together we will study the life and ministry of Jesus Christ and see how it relates to our world today. The discussions will be lively, honest, and fun. So, come by the church on the way home from work for our own brand of Happy Hour.

When: 5:30-6:30 Wednesdays beginning Sept. 10 in J2E

Sunday, September. 21, 4:00-6:00 pm

Restoring Broken Trust

by author and Vine Counselor, Rev. Mark Beaird
Ridley Hall

For parents, coworkers, marriages. Free to members of supporting churches (Nativity supports the Vine through our Outreach). **To register** see our website
www.vinepcc.com or call our office 256-270-7399.

Programs on Social Justice issues coming this fall for possible group participation through the Social Justice Class:

Saturday, September 20 – Day of Service and Unity on the International Day of Peace – 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
– Faith Presbyterian Church

Friday and Saturday, September 19 & 20 – Emerging Christianity in a 21st Century World – Canterbury United Methodist Church (Birmingham) – with Brian McLaren.
<http://www.spafer.org/index.php/lectures/our-next-speaker>

Sunday and Monday, November 2 & 3 – IMS Exploring Faith Intersections: Community, Social Justice, Culture
Trinity United Methodist Church (Huntsville) – with Jim Wallis: http://www.al.com/living/index.ssf/2014/07/jim_wallis_huntsville.html



EYC Church of the Nativity

Youth Notes!

Sunday School and EYC Kick off this Sunday!

Parents of 7th-12th graders, if your child is planning to participate in Sunday School and/or EYC and you did not register them at the parent meeting, please send me an email at wblackerby@nativity-hsv.org. I'll send you a link to an online register form and to a downloadable/printable EYC calendar for your fridge. See you on Sunday!

EYC Kickoff, Sunday, September 7th, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

All 7th through 12th graders are invited to get the youth group year started off right! Come eat supper and extend a warm welcome to the 7th graders joining the youth group before we have some messy fun outside and close out the evening with worship.

Tennessee Valley District Day, Sunday, September 14th, 1:15 - 4:30 PM

Young Episcopalians from Florence all the way to Guntersville and everywhere in between will be convening at Good Shepherd in Decatur for an afternoon of food and fun at this event held by the Youth Department of the Diocese of Alabama. We'll meet in the circle at 1:15 for the drive to Decatur. There we'll play some games (plan to get messy!) and enjoy some snacks before the TV reps tell us about the year to come for the Diocesan EYC.

EYC at Nativity, Sunday, September 21st 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Taking Nativity To Our Parishioners

If you know of a parishioner who is having a difficult time coming to church and would like to have someone visit them please let us know. Nativity's Pastoral Visitors and Eucharistic Visitors can take our church out to those who may dearly miss being here. If you have any questions or would like to have a loved one matched up please contact Rusty McCown at 533-2455. Thank You!

Congratulations to Donna L. Rush on having been named as one of two WEDC Foundation "Women Honoring Women" 2014 Honorees. **Donna** is being honored in the WHW Arts & Humanities category. She is the immediate past president of the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra Guild.

Practicing Mind-in-Heart Spiritual Leadership

Exploring Contemplative Ministry Contexts

Hosted by The Beecken Center of The School of Theology with the **Rev. Dr. Tilden Edwards** and the **Rev. Stuart Higginbotham**

Oct. 9-11, 2014

DuBose Conference Center, Monteagle, TN

Cost: \$425, includes meals and lodging at the DuBose Conference Center

For more information and to register: <http://bit.ly/VF3KcR>

September Acolyte Schedule

In this September schedule, many of you will be in new positions. Some of you will be assisting those new torches who need a veteran next to them. I will do my best to get you into the new positions next month so you can become familiar with them. If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please email the group to arrange a sub, then let us Acolytemasters know who will be filling in for you. We are so thankful for all of our NEW and RETURNING acolytes!

Sept 7

8:45

C Karsten Correale, Jackson Anglin
T Paxtyn Whitney, Evelyn Warren
T Forrest Webber, Sidney Gunter
S Katherine Hunter
AS Britt Weber

A/M Sherrill 11:00 A/M Ward

C Savannah Watson, Kate Noble Hall
T Laura Kamelchuk, Riley Kamelchuk
T Chloe Parsons, Mary Kate Brooks
S Sarah Whelden Hall
AS Allison Taylor

Sept 14

8:45 A/M Putt

C Maria Caprio, Gillianne Sharp
T Margaret Foster, Patrick Ahearn
T Steuart Evans, Elizabeth Evans
S Alexander Young
AS Caroline Knight

11:00 A/M Ward

C Jordan Cozby, Sims Windham
T Alice Malone, Evan Ward
T David DiFranco, Emery Windham
S Sims Windham*
AS Molly Ward

Sept 21

8:45 A/M Sherrill

C Franklin Aldag, Tindall Morring
T Huston Morring, Palmer Ford
T Cameron Pinson, Parker Sanders

S Cassidy Bates
AS Park Ellis

11:00A/M Nutt

C Emily Evans, Scott Louis Miller
T John Sadler Evans, Laura Kate Evans
T Dylan Chenoweth, Jack Benton Stockton
S Powell Stockton
AS Robert McCown

Sept 28

8:45A/M Putt

C Allie Starnes, Meredith Walker
T Clay Walker, Hall Blake Bryant
T Margaret Bryant, Van Dodgen
S Ellie Walker
AS Joshua Huskey

11:00A/M Nutt

C John Laney, Emily Ellison
T Ella Jane Duncan, Bankston Creech
T Luke Alison, Chris Laney
S Evan Ellison
AS Evans Alison

Dear Nativity Church Family,

Thank you for your most generous gift of (\$1516.00) to the Church Periodical Club, which will enable the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Alabama to assist our seminarians with the purchase of their books. What a wonderful tangible way to show them that we love and care about them. You are a blessing to our seminarians. Every penny collected will be given to them.

Thank you, Joan East



THANK YOU!

We had an incredible summer. Many thanks for making it happen!

The Numbers

Registered Campers: 779
Meals Served: 6,232
Total staff: 354
Total local staff: 110
Total staff that volunteered at multiple sessions: 64
Staff that did all three sessions: 33
Total bathing suits collected: 825
Total beach towels collected: 800
Prayer Partners: 340
Total sessions: 3
+ 1 new after-camp literacy program, Yellowhammer Literacy Project!
Literacy participants {campers}: 45
Total money raised: \$121, 624.27

Our numbers speak louder than words. Thank you making this free day camp and youth leadership program happen year after year! God is good all the time and all the time God is good. AMEN.

FALL 2014 FOLK SCHOOL WORKSHOPS at Camp McDowell

This fall, the Alabama Folk School is excited to offer three workshops with a wide arrange of classes in arts and music. To learn more about these upcoming opportunities, read the workshop descriptions below or visit our website at www.alfolkschool.com.

Acoustic Guitar & Crafts, September 12 - 14, 2014

Watercolor Workshop, October 19 - 24, 2014

Old Time Music & Crafts, Oct.30 - Nov. 2, 2014



Stewardship Thoughts –

INREACH MINISTRY FAIR & FOOD TRUCK SUNDAY, September 14

Stewardship Ministry is excited to be sponsoring the Inreach Ministry Fair Sunday, September 14, on the Nativity Contingency in Ridley Hall). We hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the various opportunities at Nativity as well to spend some quality time with your church family.

Inreach ministries are those programs that serve members of our parish community, most notably in the areas of worship, hospitality, parish life, spiritual development, and pastoral care. Each ministry will have a table at the Inreach Ministry Fair that will be staffed with current participants in the ministry. They will be happy to tell you all about their particular ministry as well as to sign you up to be member! Below is a list of ministries that will be participating in this year's event:

WORSHIP MINISTRIES:

- Altar Guild
- Flower Guild
- Intercessors
- Lay Eucharistic Ministers
- Lectors
- Ushers

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT:

- Centering Prayer
- Cursillo
- Daughters of the King
- Reconciliation Ministry

HOSPITALITY MINISTRIES:

- Blue Apron
- Men's Breakfast Cooks

PASTORAL CARE:

- Feed My Sheep Cooks and Delivery Teams
- Guild of the Christ Child
- Lay Eucharistic Visitors
- Lay Visitors
- Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Stephen Ministers

PARISH LIFE:

- Men's Ministry
- Mission Guild
- Nativity Bazaar
- Parish Life Committee
- Parish Weekend
- Top of the Hill Gang

MISCELLANEOUS MINISTRIES:

- Garden Guild
- "Just Do It"
- Office volunteers
- Stewardship Ministry

As you can see, there are many inreach ministries providing numerous opportunities for you to become more involved in our parish life together. Please visit the booths and sign up where God is calling you to act.

In addition to the Inreach Ministry Fair, September 14 is also FOOD TRUCK SUNDAY. We have received commitments from a great group of local vendors to be available that day with a variety of food choices for lunch (don't forget to bring cash that day!). The ministry fair and the food vendors will be open following the Sunday School hours (at approximately 10:45 am) and after the 11:00 worship service (approximately 12:15 to 1:00 pm).

We look forward to seeing you and your family at the Inreach Ministry Fair and Food Truck Sunday event, September 14.

Nativity Stewardship Ministry

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 15.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev'd Dr. Andy Anderson
Rector

The Rev'd Rusty McCown
Associate

The Rev'd Bonnie McCrickard
Associate

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

Mary Coe
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

Only 3 dates remain for 2014 ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

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. Open dates are November 30, and December 14 & 28th

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: _____
