

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

November 4, 2015

Our Mission

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.

There are lots of great things
happening at Nativity



CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY,
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

GOD
THE GIVER

We've had a great start to our
2016 Stewardship Campaign

Annual Parish Meeting

November 8th - 10:00am (Ridley Hall)

Worship Schedule

(* Nursery available)

SUNDAY

7:45am Rite I

Holy Eucharist
(Bibb Chapel)

*8:45am Rite II

Holy Eucharist
Children's Chapel

*11:00am Rite II

Holy Eucharist


WEDNESDAY

Noon

Holy Eucharist & Healing
(Bibb Chapel)

THURSDAY

6:00pm Rite II
Holy Eucharist
(Bibb Chapel)

 **TASTE**
of Nativity
CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN

Join us for a spirited evening of sweet and savory treats
prepared by many of Nativity's chefs.
A Pre-Bazaar event to tempt your palate!


THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Event Location:
CONNIE & RUSTY STEPHENSON'S HOME
526 ADAMS STREET

Silent Auction to Include:
WORKS OF ART BY NATIVITY CHILDREN & YOUTH
AND VACATION HOMES OF NATIVITY PARISHIONERS
* AUCTION WILL END AT 7:30 PM *

\$25 Per Person
HORS D'OEUVRES • WINE & BEER • CASUAL ATTIRE

Please RSVP by Friday, November 6, 2015 to Kate Noble Purvis
Mail Reply Card | Call (256) 270-9447 | Email katepurvis412@gmail.com

PROCEEDS BENEFIT NATIVITY'S CHILDREN & YOUTH
PROGRAMS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OUR GATES 

November 12th



THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY'S
ANNUAL BAZAAR
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015

CRAFT & BAKE SALE BEGINS AT 10:30AM
11:15AM & 12:30PM SEATINGS

For dine-in reservations, contact Marilyn Grundy at 256-509-9962 or mtgrundy@yahoo.com.
For take-out meals, email churchofthenativitybazaar@gmail.com or call the Church office 256-533-2455.
Proceeds benefit Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama STEAM Lab for the Semimile Center
and Children & Youth Ministries of Nativity.

November 19th

Children's Corner Children's Sunday Formation Trunk or Treat Fun



Upcoming dates:

11/22 children and youth Sunday;

11/29 no Sunday school, family outreach project during Sunday school hour;

12/2 family spaghetti night & advent wreath making;

12/ 6St Nicholas visit.

Contact: Mary Coe mcoe@nativity-hsv.org



I WANT YOU

for the

**3rd Annual Nativity SPAM Hunt
Sunday November 15th**

TEENS- COME SUPPORT THE CAUSE

**ADULTS- YOUR DONATIONS OF FOOD OR
MONEY ARE APPRECIATED!**

For more information contact
David and Kelly Towry: Towryhsv@gmail.com



Congratulations to William & Kristin
Blackerby who were married at All Saints'
Chapel, Sewanee, Tennessee, on October
23rd

ANNUAL BAZAAR LINKS & NOTES

TICKETS ON SALE THIS SUNDAY (Nov 8)

Luncheon tickets, Taste of Nativity tickets and raffle tickets after the 8:45am service and before the 11:00am service in the foyer of Ridley Hall.

BAZAAR CONTACTS

If you have questions or would rather not use online signups, Madeline Mullins; (256.655.5633) madeline.mullins@gmail.com or Xan Curran (256.651.5334) will be glad to take your information.

TASTE OF NATIVITY RESERVATIONS RESERVATION DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 6

Kate Noble Purvis (256.270.9447)
katepurvis412@gmail.com

KITCHEN HELPERS AND TURKEY COOKS NEEDED

Sign up online via SignUpGenius:
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0844adad2ea75-kitchen>

DONATE TO THE ANNUAL BAKE SALE

Sign up online via SignUpGenius to donate baked, canned, or frozen items:
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4baaac2fa75-nativity>

ANNUAL BAZAAR DINE-IN RESERVATIONS

\$15 per plate, \$12.50, if you order 8 or more

Marilyn Grundy (256.509.9962)
mtgrundy@yahoo.com

ANNUAL BAZAAR TAKE-OUT MEALS

\$15 per plate, 10 or more to the same location will be delivered

Church Office (256.533.2455)
churchofnativitybazaar@gmail.com



As we prepare for the Annual Nativity Bazaar on November 19th, we need to rearrange the majority of our "Meeting Spaces."

If you have a weekly or monthly meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 17th thru Thursday, November 19th, contact Amy Baxter 256.533.2455 x221 or abaxter@nativity-hsv.org to re-schedule or cancel your meetings.

Thank you in advance for your help!!!

Outreach in Acton



Huntsville Inner City Learning Center children having a fun evening at the Greene Street Market courtesy of Be The Change Alabama

ANNUAL BLANKET & COLD WEATHER GEAR DRIVE

*Through the winter months
Donation bins in Ridley Hall*

Most of us are blessed with a warm place to sleep during the cold winter months. Let's help those who aren't as fortunate.

Adult sizes only, please

Blankets	Sleeping bags
Coats/Jackets	Warm hats
Gloves/Socks	Sweat shirts/pants
Thermal underwear	Warm scarves



Sponsored by The North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless

We've had a great start to our 2016 Stewardship Campaign.
To the almost 200 parishioners who already pledged,

THANK YOU!

If you are still prayerfully considering your pledge for the upcoming year,
we encourage you to...

mail your pledge card into the church office
bring your card to Church Sunday
pledge on-line (instructions below)

[Click or tap here for Nativity's 2016 pledge page](#)
[or select PLEDGE NOW under the GIVING tab from the website.](#)

Celebrate God the Giver by making your pledge today!

Nativity's Stewardship Ministry



When Jesus found out that his friend Lazarus was dead, he started his journey toward “unbinding” him. Jesus had been teaching and showing his followers the abundance of living in God’s realm. God gives life, not takes it. God releases resources, not buries them. God expects us to circulate and “flow” our gifts, not bind and restrict them. Perhaps Jesus was “greatly disturbed in spirit” because of the way the people around him resisted his movement toward showing God’s abundance. First they declared Lazarus dead and buried him; there was no hope and there was nothing anyone could do. Then they blamed Jesus for his death: “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus insisted that they take away the stone, they complained: “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”

How often do we use the same techniques to resist giving and releasing our resources? We might say: How can we give when we are still grieving our loss. We blame it on the bad economy. Some of us blame God for not doing something to turn our economy around. In fear of losing more, we lock up our resources. And yet, we complain that it might smell really bad if we open it since we instinctively know that by stopping the flow of resources, they will decay and turn rotten. Resources are like water: When it doesn’t flow, it turns rotten and smells and becomes opportunities for destructive things to grow.

Jesus finally confronts us by naming the heart of the issue: “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”

Do you believe in God the giver? Do you believe in the abundance that Jesus had shown us? Do you believe in the resurrection? When we believe in the abundance of God, we can have the courage to open and unbind our resources. In doing so, we join Jesus, with all the saints in the past and in the future, in becoming the extension of God the Giver causing resources to flow and rejuvenate our lives, communities and creation.



The Rev. Dr. Eric H. F. Law is the founder and executive director of the Kaleidoscope Institute for Competent Leadership in a Diverse Changing World based in Los Angeles, CA.

Reflection Questions:

In what ways do you resist giving and releasing your resources?
How has giving in the past opened your heart to God and others?
What steps might you take to “unbind” your spirit of generosity and abundance?

Why does the Church bell ring 37 times on Sunday Morning?



37 is a weird number and has little symbolic meaning. When the bell rings on Sunday morning, or Thursday afternoon at 4:00pm, or at any other time it is programmed to ring, it rings for exactly one minute. The bell clock computer is set up so the bell can be programmed minute-by-minute. If we wanted to ring the bell for five minutes, then we program the computer to ring for five consecutive "one-minute" rings. It is a great capability of our bell clock computer to respond to the needs of the community.

So why 37 times in one minute? Well, here is the story.

The bell striker is designed so Huntsville hears the ringing as it was in 1866. The bell used to be rung by people pulling on a rope. That gives a "loud - soft" bell ring. The ringer used to pull hard on the rope (the "loud" ring), and then let the bell swing back and let the clapper ring the bell (the "soft" ring). Nativity's computer was programmed to slam the hammer on the bell with a "hard" strike and then a "soft" strike, in an approximate timing like a bell ringer pulling on a rope. People in Huntsville, whether they realize it or not, are hearing the Nativity bell ring just like it did in 1866. That sequence of 37 rings takes one minute.

Look for more stories about Nativity's bell in upcoming editions.

Story contributed by Richard Hamner

125TH ANNIVERSARY UNITED THANK OFFERING

NOTICE THE GOOD THINGS *that* HAPPEN EACH DAY. GIVE THANKS TO GOD *for* YOUR BLESSINGS. MAKE AN OFFERING *for* EACH BLESSING.

Nativity to hold UTO Ingathering Sunday Nov. 22 and Sunday Nov 29, 2015. What is UTO?

United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of the Episcopal Church for the whole church. The mission of the United Thank Offering is to expand the circle of thankful people. UTO's simple purpose has remained constant; thankful offerings given for the everyday blessings of life, provide blessings for others.

UTO envelopes will be provided in the bulletins on November 22 and 29. Checks may be written to Nativity marked, "For: UTO". Please be generous. All UTO Ingathering money is used to fund grants, such as the one awarded this year to the Diocese of Alabama for Christ Church, Fairfield's feeding ministry to the community. Over the past 125 years, UTO has collected and granted over \$133 million dollars.

Contact: Joan East (256.325.1418) joaneast@knology.net

The Heart of St. Francis of Assisi with Renaissance Florence and classical Rome Join Nativity's pilgrimage to Italy: May 26-June 6, 2016



Father Andy Anderson and Academy International Travel lead this 12 day trip praying in the steps of St. Francis and St. Clare in Assisi other holy places significant to Francis.

INFORMATION GATHERING SUNDAY,

November 8, 5:30pm Andy and Tippy Anderson's home, 447 McClung Avenue, Huntsville

R.S.V.P. to Amy Baxter at abaxter@nativity-hsv.org or call the church office (256-533-2455)

Second Sunday Community Service

Sunday, November 8, 6:00pm
(Ridley Hall) Inter-generational
event to pack weekend meal bags
for the children at Blossomwood
elementary.

37% of the children attending there
are in need of weekend food at
home. Nativity has partnered with
Blossomwood to provide these 280
children a take-home meal pack
each week.

Any age and help appreciated

QUICK BITS



HAP for November

Items needed: Canned fruit, soup,
spaghetti sauce, meats of all kinds,
all kinds of vegetables (even green
beans). Thanks for all your support!

Nativity Women's Retreat 2016

St. Mary's Sewanee, TN

This year's theme:
Prayer Boot Camp

SAVE THE DATE

One night only – Friday, Feb. 19th
and Saturday morning Feb 20th !

Speaker –Suzanne Matthews

Price - \$130.00 per person

Contact Lane Tutt

ADVENT QUIET DAY

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

5 DEC 2015

9:00am 2:00pm

with the Rev. Dr. BASYE HOLLAND-SHUEY

HOW TO LIVE WELL

*Spiritual Practices that ground us, bringing
peace, mindfulness, acceptance, and joy*



Click anywhere on this story to view the full
schedule and register for lunch.

You may also call the Church Office to register
for lunch (256.533.2455).

Monthly Men's Breakfast

Tuesday, November 10, *Suggested donation \$5*

6:30 am Simple Eucharist, Bibb Chapel

7:00 am Breakfast with guest speaker

Rod Crutcher Manager, Huntsville

Hospital Chaplaincy Services and

Bereavement Coordinator



Stewardship of Creation

“Good reasons to avoid bottled water”: PART 2

Yes, it's expensive, wasteful and – contrary to popular belief – usually not any healthier for you than tap water – and more:

It seems innocent enough, buying and drinking bottled water – right? Unfortunately, bottled water is wreaking havoc on Earth's precious resources. Plus, in most cases it's almost definitely not safer or cleaner than tap water; and in some cases it's worse.

Some information about the bottled water habit:

- The world drinks over \$100 billion worth of bottled water each year; that's roughly 50 billion bottles.
- The U.S. consumes 30 billion of those bottles each year; that's 1,500 bottles of water per second.
- Even though the U.S. has some of the safest tap water in the world, it has the largest market for bottled water. Here's that “just for my convenience” thing!
- Bottled water costs 300 to 2,000 times more than tap water.
Tap water costs, on average, \$0.002 per gallon

An interesting fact to think about: If you used bottled water for all of the water around the house (showers, dishwashing, watering plants, etc.), your monthly water bill would be about \$9,000.

Environmental Impacts

- 17 million barrels of oil are used in the production of disposable water bottles each year. That's enough to fuel 1 million cars for an entire year!!
- It takes more than 50 million barrels of oil each year to pump, process, transport, and refrigerate bottled water.
- It takes 40,000 18-wheelers to deliver our bottled water each week.
- It takes three times the amount of water to produce a bottle as it does to fill it.
- Producing bottled water requires up to 2,000 times the energy cost of producing tap water.
- More than 80% of water bottles end up in landfills. Some get recycled; the rest end up as litter on roadsides and in waterways!
- Averaged out, every square mile of the ocean has more than 46,000 pieces of plastic in it.
- Some bottlers extract the water used in bottling from springs and aquifers, which can dry up wells, deplete wetlands and drain rivers.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Buy BPA-free reusable water bottles for yourself and all members of your family. Carry them everywhere you go. Filling up is basically FREE!
- Give reusable water bottles as gifts to family and friends for birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Christmas, etc.!!
- Take a stand. Contact your reps in Congress, the FDA, and our governor and ask them to maintain high standards for municipal water systems.

THE BEST LONG-TERM SOLUTION IS TO MAKE TAP WATER SAFE FOR EVERYONE.

Compiled from information from “The Greatist Team” article, “Why you should never buy disposable water bottles again.”



CREATION

Let's Take Care of It

The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. Genesis 2:5

Upcoming Events at a Glance

November & December

12th	A Taste of Nativity (off-site)	6:00pm
15th	3rd Annual EYC Great SPAM Hunt	1:00pm
19th	Nativity's Annual Bazaar	
22nd	Youth and Children's Sunday, No EYC	
25th	Thanksgiving Holy Eucharist (Bibb Chapel)	Noon
26th & 27th	Church office closed (Thanksgiving holiday)	
29th	The Season of Advent begins No Sunday School Blossomwood school inter-generational meal-packing event (Ridley Hall)	10:00am
Dec 1st	Christmas Planning meeting (Library)	5:00pm
2nd	Family Spaghetti Dinner w/ Advent Wreath Workshop	5:30pm
5th	Advent Quiet Day Bus Trip to Lessons & Carols at Sewanee	9:00am 2:30pm
6th	HAP Sunday St. Nicholas Day / Pajama Sunday	

PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

Lynn Jones, Claire Johnston, Elaine Sampson, Anna Chilton, Martha Joffrion, Kingslea de Roode Merkel, Cecelia Duncan, Joe Vaughn, The Rev'd Van Foreman, Pam Rogers, Charles Smith, Lorene Dilworth, Anna Post, Nancy Colin Swenson, Bob Hale, Carla King, Leigh Wahl, Elsie Olsen

We pray for the departed:

Kildere Franco, husband of Dot Millirons
John Manning Cantey, father of Tommy Cantey

We pray for a marriage:

William Thiele Blackerby & Kristin Danielle Hanson, married at All Saints' Chapel, Sewanee, Tennessee, on October 23rd

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

US Navy - Middle East, Kenneth Vandervoort
US Navy, Jesse Teal

We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

11/4	Katie Banish	11/7	Holland Ray	11/7	Anne Louise Wilson	11/7	Caroline Knight
11/7	Bailey Benton	11/8	Zoe Church	11/8	Rowan Cline	11/10	Maura Berman
11/10	Caroline Hornsby	11/10	Sarah Coleman Hornsby	11/10	Morgan Watkins	11/10	Steuart Evans
11/11	Ellie Webber	11/15	Evans Bryant	11/17	Frederick Fortner		

Acolyte Schedule ~ November 2015

Please check over this schedule carefully, as your name may be listed for more than one Sunday. We are presenting Senior Acolyte crosses on Nov 22 at 11, so many of our seniors will only be at this service this month. Let us know if you are unable to serve as scheduled, ESPECIALLY if you are down for the Nov 1 Evensong service at 5 pm.*

Nov 8 8:45 A/M N Putt

C Gillianne Sharp, Meredith Walker
T Ellie Walker, Clay Walker
T Evelyn Warren, Alice Malone
S Ireland Braudaway
AS Huston Morring

11:00 A/M Nutt

C Jordan Cozby, Powell Stockton*
T Alexander Grelier, Leighton Luther
T Madelyn Alison, Mary Ellis Alison
S Evan Ellison
AS Jack Benton Stockton

Nov 15 8:45 A/M Nutt

C Sims Windham
T Patrick Ahearn
T Lucy Ellis*
S Margaret Foster
AS Emery Windham

11:00 A/M Nutt

C David DiFranco
T Evans Bryant, Betsy Bryant
T Gertrude Aboudonia, Nannette Aboudonia
S David DiFranco
AS Margaret Bryant

Nov 22 8:45 A/M N Putt

C Bankston Creech, Forrest Webber
T Parker Sanders, Mary Maddox Creech
T Sarah Whelden Hall, Sidney Gunter
S Joshua Huskey
AS Britt Webber

11:00 A/M Sherrill Senior Cross Presentation

C Franklin Aldag, Jackson Anglin
T P Ford, Steuart Evans
T Thomas Aldag, Ella Jane Duncan
S Powell Stockton
AS Alexander Young

Acolyte Schedule ~ November 2015

Nov 29 8:45 A/M Nutt

C Allie Starnes, Karsten Correale

T Paxtyn Whitney, Lucy Ellis

T Bailey Morrison, Jed Rainey

S Caroline Knight

AS Park Ellis

11:00 A/M M Ward

C Mollie Ward, Evans Alison

T Mary Kate Brooks

T Evan Ward

S Evan Ward

AS Luke Alison

2016 ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION FORM

Please complete this form with your check (\$40 or \$20 for shared dedications) made payable to: *Nativity Flower Guild*

Mailing address: Andrea Vandervoort, 434 Locust Ave. Huntsville AL 35801

Date Desired _____

Your Name _____

Phone # _____

Would you share a dedication? _____

Do you wish to have your name listed in the bulletin? _____

Please check the box next to the dedication you desire.

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:

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION, If you have questions, you may call Andrea at 256.539.2673 **THANK YOU**

2015 CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATION

Christmas dedications are \$20 each

Please complete this form with your check made payable to: *Nativity Flower Guild*

Mailing address: Andrea Vandervoort, 434 Locust Ave. Huntsville AL 35801

Your Name as it is to be listed in Christmas service leaflet

(if you do not wish your name listed, please indicate)

Phone #: _____

Name for this dedication:

Please check the box next to the dedication you desire.

All dedications read

- ☐ To the glory of God and...
- ☐ In loving memory of...
- ☐ In thanksgiving for...
- ☐ in celebration of...

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION, If you have questions, you may call Andrea at 256.539.2673 **THANK YOU**

STEEPLE SCHEDULE

The Steeple is published the 1st and 3rd

Wednesday of each month.

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

gsommer@nativity-hsv.org

The deadline for the next issue is Monday Noon, November 16th.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev'd Dr. Andy Anderson
Rector

The Rev'd Rusty McCown
Associate

The Rev'd Bonnie McCrickard
Associate

Dr. Stephen G. Schaffer
Interim Choirmaster and Organist
Lane Tutt

Adult Christian Formation

William Blackerby
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Anna Quirk
Youth Ministry Assistant

Mary Coe
Children's Formation

Amanda Goeke
Children's Formation Assistant

Audrey Clayton
Nursery Coordinator

John Buyse
Property Manager

Marlin Wilder
Sexton

Sally Stockton
Kitchen Coordinator

Beverly Franklin
Bookkeeper/Business Mgr

Connie Gadomski
Worship & Ministry Assistant

Amy Baxter
Assistant to the Rector

Glenn Sommer
Communications

Prentice White
Verger/Wedding Coordinator

WARDENS' COUNCIL

Bill Starnes Sr Warden

Allen Daniels Jr Warden

Michele Hunter Clerk

Brandon Smith Treasurer

Brenda Chynoweth Finance Chair

Lou Durnya Long-Range Planning

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

nativity-hsv.org

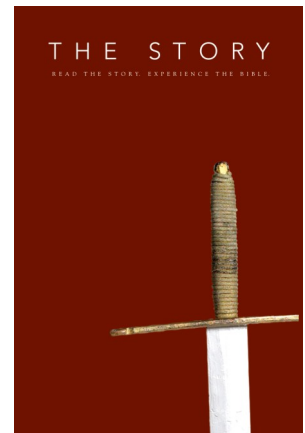


THE STORY at Nativity



No adult classes on November 8
The November 9 class will meet
Ruth

Chapter 9



November 15 & 16
Saul

Chapter 10

Click or tap for Nativity's 'THE STORY' page

November 4, 2015