

# THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

January 6, 2016



CHURCH  
OF THE  
NATIVITY,  
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

## 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)

## 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.*

## "The Light Shines in the Darkness" A Christmas Message from Our Bishops

Here we are again, the church and the world celebrating together the joyful festiveness associated with this time of the year – the birthday of the baby Jesus. Christmas (Christ-mass) is when the community of faith gathers around the table of the Lord to share in the Great Thanksgiving honoring what God has done for all humanity.

Jesus' birth is one of the holiest events in the world, and with it comes the awareness that God has come down to dwell with us in human form. In dwelling with us, he is transforming the darkness of this world associated with evil, sin and brokenness into light, personally inhabiting it for good and righteousness.

At Christmas we hold true to the faith that genuine hope and new life are breathed into our lives so we may start afresh and once again put the pieces of our broken lives back together again. Recalling the first Christian family, Joseph, Mary and Jesus – the model of all Christian families and the host of heavenly presence associated with his birth – the love we see in Jesus' family is the love that we are called to show to everyone.

Oh what gracious love is this because God first loved us, sending his Son into the world as the perfect and wholesome gift to all humanity! It is this gift that began the tradition of gift giving that Christmas is known and celebrated for over the years.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's  
Christmas message  
and video link on page 4

The message of Christmas is one of peace and goodwill to all. We share it with each other in a spirit of love, kindness, generosity and self-sacrifice. The barriers, some visible, others invisible, are shattered, even if temporarily, so the light of the Christ child may shine clearly in the lives of us all.

It is no secret that we face many threats and challenges on a daily basis, enough to cause the best and most resilient to question God's presence. The Christmas message collapses all that anxiety and fear transforming them into optimism and hope filled expressions of a better tomorrow. We must summon our resolve to be confident in the power of God to change the world through his Son born in Bethlehem's stable.

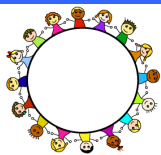
Friends, lest we forget, Jesus was born into a world overwhelmed by fear, corruption, oppression, greed, hatred, malice and political instability. There wasn't a more inopportune time for a perfect God to indwell this world, but he chose to make it *Kairos* (fullness of time), to be born, and thus, beginning the tough work of restoring broken relationship with GOD.

We remember the homeless in our company, the orphans and widows. We remember refugees all over the world fully aware that soon after his birth Jesus became a refugee in Egypt fleeing King Herod's edict to kill all children less than two years. We remember our military families who are spending this Christmas without family members who were killed in combat, and those serving in combat and non-combat zones. Please say a prayer for those less fortunate, and wherever possible reach out and lend a helping hand. This is what Jesus would expect of us.

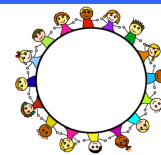
The light of the world is here for all to see, worship and embrace. In the comforting words of the angels to the shepherds, "Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people: to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord..."

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the Episcopal family in the Diocese of Alabama, and all people everywhere.

Peace and joy!



## Children's Corner Children's Sunday Formation



### Backstage at Christmas Eve Holy Commotion

It was a lovely Christmas Pageant! Thanks to all our families, volunteers and pageant director Janis Miskelly.

### Episcopal Relief and Development coin collection

During Advent, our children saved their change in ERD Hope Chest coin collectors. Together, we donated \$136.80 to ERD causes. Learn more about Episcopal Relief and Development here:

<http://www.episcopalrelief.org/>

### 2015 Christmas Ornaments

If you missed getting an ornament on Christmas Eve, we have some left. Look for the red basket in Ridley Hall this Sunday to pick one up.

### Church School resumes this Sunday.

Second through sixth grades will be doing THE STORY chapter 15, Elijah.

Contact: Mary Coe [mcoe@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:mcoe@nativity-hsv.org)



EYC Church of the Nativity

## Happy New Year



Here's the Nativity crew at Christmas Conference at Camp McDowell (December 28-30, 2015).

Sunday School resumes this week at 10:00am

EYC will be doing its regular second Sunday outreach project on January 10th. Meet in the LOFT at 5:30pm for supper."

Contact: William Blackerby [wblackerby@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:wblackerby@nativity-hsv.org)



Nicholas Kristof



New York Times columnist and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner

Anna Deavere Smith



Actor, playwright, professor, and 1996 MacArthur Fellow

Emilie Townes



Dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School

### REGISTRATION

#### AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

Online registration via Nativity's website [nativity.dioala.org](http://nativity.dioala.org)

Volunteers Needed - Signup online via SignupGenius

or contact Marilyn Lands  
[marilynlands@gmail.com](mailto:marilynlands@gmail.com)  
(256.464.0669)

This year, Trinity Institute (TI) will explore the most pressing issues of our time, including **structural racism**, **mass incarceration**, and **policy change**. Come with open ears; leave with a greater capacity to go back into your community and create change.

**WHERE:** The Church of the Nativity, Episcopal - 208 Eustis Street, Huntsville, Alabama 35801

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 21 from 5:00 - 9:00pm.; Friday, January 22 from 8:00am - 8:00pm and Saturday, January 23 from 8:00am - 5:00pm

**COST:** None - donations accepted

Visit [TI2016.org](http://TI2016.org) for the full schedule and details

6th annual

## Nativity Women's Retreat

Overnight at St. Mary's, Sewanee  
Friday, Feb. 19 - Saturday Feb. 20

## "Prayer Boot Camp"



Cost: \$130.00 per person \* Registration Deadline: January 30, 2016  
Contact: Lane Tutt, 256-533-2455 or 256-653-7200

## An Evening with Sister Mary McGehee

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

26 JAN 2016 - 5:30pm

### Psychological Growth in the Spiritual Journey

Sister Mary is a nun in residence at Sacred Heart Convent in Cullman. The evening begins with a twenty minute Centering Prayer sit, then dinner. After dinner, Sister Mary will present her topic.

A dinner is available (\$7). Click anywhere on this block to sign up for dinner or call the Church Office (256.533.2455) Contact Brenda Chynoweth [brendacc@knology.net](mailto:brendacc@knology.net) or (256.464.9457).



## Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Christmas Message 2015

Hello. Our original plan was for me to tape a Christmas message in front of the United Nations building in New York as a way of sending a message that this Jesus of Nazareth whom we follow came to show us the way to a different world, a world rounded in God's peace and God's justice, God's love and God's compassion.

I recently had surgery and so we had to change those plans and so I'm here in Raleigh on Capitol Square. Christ Church is here and we're filming this message here just as a way of giving me a chance to say "Thank you" to all of you who sent cards and prayers in my recent surgery. I'm doing well and I'm coming back to work.

But I did want to say something to you. It occurs to me that this Jesus of Nazareth really does make a difference. And God coming into the world in the person of Jesus matters profoundly for all of us regardless of our religious tradition.

In the park across from the United Nations, the Ralph Bunche Park, the words of the Prophet Isaiah are quoted,

*They will beat their swords into plowshares and  
their spears into pruning hooks  
Nation will not rise against nation  
Neither shall they learn war any more*

What's not there is another part of that passage that's in the second chapter of Isaiah, and it says,

*Come, let us go to the mountain of God,  
That he may show us His ways and teach us His  
paths*

We who follow Jesus believe that the mountain came to us when God came among us in the person of Jesus to show us the way to live, to show us the way to love, to show us the way to transform this world from the nightmare it often is into the dream that God intends for us all.

So, as the words were spoken on that night when Jesus was born, peace, good will to all people, God bless you, God keep you. A blessed Advent, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year to all.

**The Most Rev. Michael Curry  
Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Episcopal Church**

[Presiding Bishop Curry's video message can be viewed  
by clicking or tapping here](#)



## To our Wonderful Parishioners

The Clergy and staff want to thank you all so much for the Christmas cards, baked goodies, and presents! We sincerely appreciate you thinking of us and we wish you all the best in 2016.

Happy New Year!

Nativity's Christmas Tree and new Advent Wreath were beautiful highlights to this year's decorations.

Although dwarfed by the tree's size, volunteers Tom Lydon, Margaret Devenish, Loch Neely, Tom Devenish take a quick picture break with Sexton Marlin Wilder and Property Manager John Buyse.



**Thanks to everybody who helped make  
Christmas at Nativity Special**

## A Message of Thanks for Lessons & Carols

My husband and I wish to express our deep appreciation of the service of the Nine Lessons and Carols at the Episcopal Church of the Nativity on Dec. 19, 2015. Please express our appreciation to the Choir Director for the choice of beautiful, inspiring carols and their elegant and skilled interpretation.

The dedication of the choir, who have naturally beautiful voices, but spared no effort to sing for the Lord with all their hearts, inspired us to make a song of our own lives as a gift for the CHRIST CHILD.

THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY FOR THE MUSIC WITH WHICH YOUR CHURCH IS ALWAYS A DEEP WELL OF LIVING WATER.

We send you our sincere wishes for a joyful CHRISTMAS lit up with all the gifts of the spirit and every blessing in The New Year.



## QUICK BITS

### 2016 Vestry Officers

Nativity's Vestry is proud to announce its elected officers for the upcoming year:

**Bill Starnes** - Sr. Warden

**Allen Daniels** - Jr. Warden

**Brandon Smith** - Treasurer

**Margaret Devenish** - Clerk

Vestry Liaisons will be assigned by the Sr. Warden and the Rector within the next week. The full vestry list will be published in the Jan 20 Steeple and on the website.

### Welcoming Prayer Introductory Workshop

will be presented by Sue Miller on January 30, 2016 at Church of the Nativity from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Sue Miller has been active in Centering Prayer for over 20 yrs and has lead Introductory and Intensive retreats at Sacred Heart Convent in Cullman. She is currently on the Leadership Team for Contemplative Outreach Birmingham and is the co-contact lead with Linda Lou Hardison for the Huntsville/Madison/Decatur area.

To register(\$30.00) call Sue (256.)881.7019 or [smmiller1009@gmail.com](mailto:smmiller1009@gmail.com)



### HAP for January

Items needed: Canned chicken, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, and canned fruit.

**Thanks for all your support!**

### 2016 Haiti Medical Mission Planning Meeting

Sunday, January 17, following the 11:00am service

This year's trip will be from April 30th-May 7th with a per person cost of \$1,100-\$1,200 (air fare, room, & meals).

If you are interested but not able to attend, contact Bob Serio [rserio001@gmail.com](mailto:rserio001@gmail.com) for more information.

### Sunday volunteers needed

Have you been looking for a way to serve the church, but don't have a lot of extra time, then Ushering is for you!

We are in need of ushers for both the 8:45 & 11:00 Sunday service. Each usher is assigned to a team; each team serves for two months during the year.

Please contact the church office if you are interested, and we will get you plugged in!

### Reflections Bible Study

Resumes on January 14 with the study - *Grace: More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine* by Max Lucado.

Everyone will need both the Book and the Participant workbook. The first week of homework will need to be done by the first class.

Contact: Debbie Collette [dtc3898@knology.net](mailto:dtc3898@knology.net) or (256.527.5050)



### THE STORY at Nativity



January 10 & 11 -  
Chapter 15  
Prophets



January 17 -  
Chapter 16  
Fall of Israel

No Monday evening  
class on January 18

### Mission Guild

Will meet Monday, January 25th at 10:00am in the Church Library.

The speaker will be Marydae Sneed, Director, Blount House. Ann Epps and Joan East are hostesses.



# STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

## *Five Sustainable Resolutions for the New Year\**

Harvey Cotten, noted horticulturist and author, and our fellow Nativity parishioner offers five New Year's gardening resolutions.

"It's that time of year when we all are prone to make a few New Year's resolutions with every intention of keeping but almost always fail miserably in executing because most of our resolutions center around diet and exercise, and we all know how hard it is to do both. ... I say, forget diet and exercise and make a new list of resolutions centered around gardening, primarily sustainable gardening, and see if we can't keep these pronouncements for the coming year."

### **#1 The right plant in the right place**

Many of our garden mishaps can be avoided by putting careful thought in the plants we use and make sure that they are planted in the appropriate place. Pay particular attention to the mature size of the plants you are considering and space them correctly. Crowding plants may increase the incidence of disease while increasing competition for water and nutrients. Using a plant that will grow too large for a particular space will increase the need for pruning in later years. Also, make sure that you use the proper plants for the available sun exposure that you have while grouping according to similar water requirements. Lastly, never use plants that need good drainage in places of unimproved clay; you are just asking for trouble!

### **#2 Mulch, mulch, mulch**

The use of mulch in the landscape is not only beneficial but almost mandatory when gardening in the Deep South. Mulch offers numerous benefits including moderating the root zone temperature and improving water percolation through the soil profile by keeping the clay soil from forming a crust layer. Mulch can inhibit weed growth, protect trees and shrubs from mechanical injury and conserve moisture by slowing down evaporation. Mulch adds organic matter to the soil, thus feeding the micro-organisms and providing nutrients to the plants. Lastly, it just looks good, providing the finishing touches to your landscape.

### **#3 Plant a garden**

Growing your food warms the heart, nourishes the soul and feeds the body in oh so many ways. There is nothing quite like growing a fresh tomato and eating it on a hot summer day. Tending to a garden makes you appreciate the abundant food supply that we have and realize how

difficult it is to be self-sufficient. While I am not advocating giving up trips to the supermarket, I am suggesting that planting a small garden of your favorite fruits and vegetables will pay you dividends many times over.

### **#4 Water correctly**

Water is one of our most precious resources, and the wasting of water is a travesty. The proper use of water is critical to good plant health and for our environment. Look at creating a drought-tolerant landscape that will survive (and even thrive) on low water use. Water deeply and infrequently to condition both your lawn and garden to withstand periods of low rainfall. Monitor your irrigation system regularly so that you are not watering your driveway and roadways – this is wasted water and increases storm water run-off. Decrease the size of your lawn because it is the heaviest user of water in your landscape. Use mulches that decrease evaporation, and water at the proper time of day (from 4:00 to 9:00am) to minimize the loss of water to wind and heat.

### **#5 Compost**

Becoming an ardent composter solves many of our gardening issues while also taking many of our throw-away articles and turning them into a useful resource. Composting can provide a valuable soil amendment that is just perfect for adding to our red clay soils to improve plant health. Compost will improve soil drainage, thus decreasing the incidence of root rot pathogens. Composts provide organic nutrients to your plants, thus decreasing the need for additional fertilizer that may pollute local watersheds if swept away in our storm water drainage systems. Compost can be made from many waste products found around home – grass and shrub clippings, vegetable scraps, leaves, newspapers, most paper products, eggshells, and coffee grounds. By composting, you are also reducing water materials that must be picked up by the sanitation department. Composting is nature's way of recycling and a wonderful practice to adopt.

\* Used with permission

*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*

## Nativity 101: A Class for ANYONE New to Nativity

Begins this Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 10:00am in the Parish Hall

Nativity 101 is a 5-week offering on Sunday mornings at 10:00am in the Parish Hall for anyone new to Nativity, including Episcopalians who have transferred in or in the process of transferring their letter. It is the foundation for our Seekers / Catechumenate Class process that continues February 14 for anyone seeking to be Confirmed or Received into our Episcopal Church Communion or for existing Episcopalians who desire to renew their Baptismal Covenants.

The Nativity 101 Class Schedule is as follows:

January 10	Who are we Nativity Episcopalians?
January 17	<i>The Book of Common Prayer</i> (BCP) Practical Implications
January 24	Sunday Worship, The Eucharist
January 31	Church Manners and Etiquette
February 7	How can YOU get involved?

For more information, please speak with Lane Tutt or Amy Baxter [abaxter@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:abaxter@nativity-hsv.org) (256.533.2455)

## Curious about Cursillo?

Informational Dinner - January 10, 2016

Cursillo is a wonderful spiritual community built on the principles of piety, study, and action. The Cursillo experience begins with a three-day weekend retreat at Camp McDowell and continues when you get back to the “real world” by regularly meeting in small groups.



Hundreds of Nativity parishioners and nearly 8,000 in our Diocese have attended a Cursillo weekend and most are still active in the movement today. If you are interested in finding out more about Cursillo in the Diocese of Alabama and in our parish, the Nativity Cursillo Community will host an informational dinner to answer all of your questions.

This event will be held at the home of Don and Kay Wheeler on Sunday, January 10, 2016 @ 5:30pm. Dinner will be provided and we will have a no-pressure discussion regarding Cursillo

If you would like to attend this event, please RSVP to David Collette at [drc3898@knology.net](mailto:drc3898@knology.net) or (256.527.2560)

## The Heart of St. Francis of Assisi with Renaissance Florence and classical Rome



The registration deadline is January 15, 2016

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.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Click or tap the image for Nativity's website page or contact Amy Baxter (256.533.2455) [abaxter@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:abaxter@nativity-hsv.org) for an information packet

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### We pray for those who are ill or recovering:

John Frost, Carolyn Courtenay, Bill Rogers, Bob Ward, Kathy Jacob-House, Judith Cather, Warren Vann, Dell Crawford, Bob Hale, Katherine White, Kingslea de Roode Merkel, Anna Chilton, Lorene Dilworth, Anna Post, Nancy Colin Swenson, Carla King, Leigh Wahl, Elsie Olsen

### We pray for the departed:

Sue Brown, cousin of Gail Rogers

### We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

US Army, Guice Moore

US Navy - Middle East, Kenneth Vandervoort

US Navy, Jesse Teal

### We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

1/6	Michael Jones	1/7	Sarah Spragins	1/8	Harry Foster	1/9	Rylan Whitney
1/11	Matthew Brown	1/11	David Young	1/13	Oliver Dibble	1/13	Anne Limbo
1/14	Parker Sanders	1/18	Finn Webb	1/18	Jackson Allen	1/19	Riley Jane Ragland

## Monthly Men's Breakfast

Tuesday, January 12, *Suggested donation \$5*

6:30 am Simple Eucharist, Bibb Chapel

7:00 am Breakfast with guest speaker,  
Andrea Williams, 305 8th Street Executive  
Director



## Upcoming Events at a Glance

15th -18th	EYC Ski Trip	
18th	Church Office closed (Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday)	
27th	Family Spaghetti Dinner	
31st	FOM Concert - Kevin Class	5:00pm
Feb 5th	FOM Concert - Ensemble Aubade	7:30pm
Feb 9th	Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras Dinner	5:30pm
Feb 10th	Ash Wednesday	
	Healing Eucharist and Ash Wednesday Liturgy	
	7:00am, Noon, and 6:00pm	

## 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.

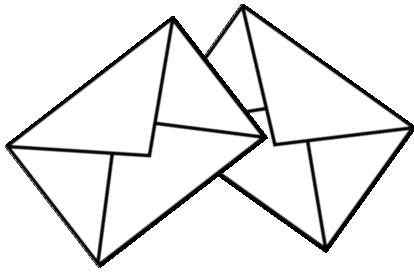
All dedications read

- ☐ 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**





2016 offering envelopes (for those requesting them) are now available in Ridley Hall

Wednesday, January 27 - 5:30pm

## Family Spaghetti Night

*at Nativity*



### Acolyte Schedule January 2016

#### Sunday Jan 3

8:45 A/ M Ward

C Sims Windham, Karsten Correale  
T Paxtyn Whitney, Parker Sanders\*  
T Bailey Morrison\*, Alice Malone\*  
S Ireland Braudaway  
AS Emery Windham

11:00 A/M Nutt

C Robert McCown\*, Jordan Cozby\*  
T Alexander Grelier\*, Mary Kate Brooks  
T Laura Kamelchuk, Ella Jane Duncan\*  
S Evan Ellison  
AS Riley Kamelchuk

#### Sunday Jan 10 \*\*Baptisms

8:45 A/M Putt

C Gillianne Sharp, Palmer Ford  
T Lucy Ellis, Van Dodgen  
T Betsy Bryant, Evans Bryant  
S Cameron Pinson  
AS Park Ellis

11:00 A/M D Nutt

C Powell Stockton, Steuart Evans  
T Madelyn Alison, Mary Ellis Alison  
T Luke Alison, Elizabeth Evans  
S Leighton Luther  
AS Jack Benton Stockton

#### Sunday Jan 17

8:45 A/M D Nutt

C Alexander Young, Meredith Walker  
T Clay Walker, Sarah Whelden Hall  
Aboudonia  
T Sam Hartley, Tess Lambert  
S Ellie Walker  
AS Sidney Gunter

11:00 A/M Sherrill

C Bankston Creech, Allie Starnes  
T Mary Maddox Creech, Gertrude  
T Nannette Aboudonia  
S Chloe Parsons  
AS Dylan Chenoweth\*

#### Sunday Jan 24

8:45 A/M Sherrill

C Franklin Aldag, Jackson Anglin  
T Thomas Aldag, Huston Morring  
T Jed Rainey, Parker Sanders\*  
S Joshua Huskey  
AS Evelyn Warren

11:00 M Ward

C Allison Taylor, David DiFranco  
T Evans Alison, Margaret Bryant  
T Ella Jane Duncan\*, Molly Ward  
S Evan Ward  
AS Molly Ward

#### Sunday Jan 31

8:45 A/M Putt

C Forrest Webber, Windham Hunter  
T Patrick Ahearn, Margaret Foster  
T Alice Malone\*, Bailey Morrison\*  
S Britt Webber  
AS Katherine Hunter

11:00 A/M Nutt

C Robert McCown\*, Jordan Cozby\*  
T Laura Kate Evans, John Sadler Evans  
T Alexander Grelier\*, Dylan Chenoweth  
S John Sadler Evans  
AS Dylan Chenoweth

## 2015 Christmas Dedications

**The flowers on the altar** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Lynne and Louis Amis by their family.

**The wreaths above the altar** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of John Cotten and Wally Reynolds by their families.

**The wreaths on the front doors** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Ben Matthews III and Marjorie & Luke Matthews by Barbara Matthews and the Ben Matthews Family.

**The Advent greens around the inside front doors** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Clyde O. Brittain, Sr.; Judy Brittain Christian; Mr. & Mrs. Frank G. Cousins; and Camden Boyd Cobun by Peter & Marcia Cobun and Shirley Cobun.

**The Advent Wreath** is dedicated to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for the Flower Guild.

**The Ridley Hall door wreaths** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of W. C. Smith by his family; and by Sally Ann Culver in honor of her family and all our many blessings.

**The Bell Tower door wreaths** are offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jack Little by Sara, Suzanne and Jon.

**The flowers in the Bell Tower** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Libba Walker by her family.

**The wreath inside over the church doors** is dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Nancy Langhorne Lacy by The Lacy Family.

**The wreath on the bell tower gate** is dedicated to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for our children by Gail & Michael Brown.

**The flowers on the font** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Sara L. Whitworth by Jerry Whitworth and Charles & Sherry Whitworth & family.

**The flowered candelabra** are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for our family by Sandy & Melissa Kirkindall.

**The wreath in the vestibule** is offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Tom Robinson by Jim & Sally Fleming.

**The flowers on the pulpit** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jean Pettis, Max. A. Luther, Jr. and Jeanne & Jim McCown by Gripp, Leigh Anne, Neill and Leighton Luther.

**The Lady Chapel flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Milo E. and Glennie Burkhalter Shearer by Rose Anne Shearer.

**The wreath on the front gate** is dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jimmie & Mary Kate Jordan and Dallas & Rene Reynolds by Louise & John Reynolds.

**The wreath on the office door** is dedicated to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for our grandchildren Parker & Maggie Sanders and Liam & Alice Petroff by Peggy & Bob Serio.

**The wreath on the Ridley Hall gate** is dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. Dan Calhoun and Mr. Guy Spencer; and in honor of Dr. & Mrs. Ben King by Dr. & Mrs. Carl Gessler, Jr.

**The Chapel door wreaths** are offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Sampson by his family.

**The flowers and wreaths at the Chapel altar** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Billy Ray Kirkindall by Sandy & Melissa Kirkindall and Elizabeth & Brett Weaver.

**The wreaths on the Cloister doors** are offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Katherine Alan Vowell by Sara & Judd Vowell.

**The flowers at the font in the Chapel** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Harry J. Coons by his family.

**The Church decorations are offered to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for:**

Carla & Ben King by the Flower Guild

Audrey Clayton by the Flower Guild

Rusty, Anne Frances, Steve, Nancy Reese and Neely by Fred & Louise Applegate

John Buyse by the Flower Guild

Our families: Rogers II, Ferguson, and Wikle III by Jim & Pam Rogers

Joshua & Alec Huskey by Tom & Kim Huskey

Our grandson, Price Stone Crunkleton, by Richard & Nancy Crunkleton

Our grandson, William Byrne Crunkleton, by Richard & Nancy Crunkleton

**The Church decorations are offered to the Glory of God and in celebration of:**

Dr. Stephen Schaeffer and his dedication to musical excellence

**The Church decorations are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of:**

Our children, Eleanor Smith & John Conway, by Margaret & Jack Gleason

**The Church decorations are offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of:**

John H. Cotten, Sr., our loving Dad by Marion & John Laszar

Suzanne Paddock, sister of Christi Falt by the Flower Guild

My husband by Jennie Coe

Julian Kobler by Virginia Kobler

John Galino by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

Martha Benzle by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

Mary Wilson by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

Homer B. Wilson, Jr. by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

Tim Wilson by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

David Wilson by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

Jane Douthit by Jim Douthit and Claire Douthit

Guy J. Spencer by Jim & Pam Rogers

Florence & John Watson by Joan & Joe East

Byrne Taylor by Judy & John Heacock

Anne & N.W. Tucker by Virginia Parnell

My husband, Don, and my mother, Lillian G. Adair by Marty Askins

Else & Homer Landrum by Lee, Cindy, Riley & Laura Kamelchuk

My parents, William Shelton & Joy Shelton Gass and my brother Scott Shelton by Beth Durnya

Lynne & Louis Amis by Abigail Callahan Amis



## STEEPLE SCHEDULE

*The Steeple* is published the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month.

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

[gsommer@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:gsommer@nativity-hsv.org)

The deadline for the next issue is **9:00am Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.**

### CLERGY & STAFF

**The Rev'd Dr. Andy Anderson**  
Rector

**The Rev'd Rusty McCown**  
Associate

**The Rev'd Bonnie McCrickard**  
Associate

**Christian Crocker**  
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

### AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY

A member of the clergy is *always* on call. 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 the main 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](http://nativity-hsv.org)

As we begin the New Year, a heartfelt **THANK YOU** to the 349 faithful Nativity families who have made a financial commitment to the church for 2016.

If you have not pledged yet, we hope you do so in the next few days. The Vestry will begin setting priorities and allocating this year's funds and your support is truly important to our mission.

*Nativity's Stewardship Ministry*



### Pledge Commitment for Year 2016

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

In realization that everything in our lives is a gift from God and in thanksgiving for all that He has so graciously provided, I/we prayerfully make this pledge for the mission and ministry of the Church of the Nativity in 2016:

Total annual pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ I would like pledge envelopes ☐ YES ☐ NO

My/our pledge will be paid: ☐ weekly ☐ monthly ☐ quarterly ☐ semi-annually ☐ annually

☐ This pledge is a tithe - 10% or more of my income ☐ I/we have a plan and are working toward the tithe

I have included ☐ the Nativity Trust and/or ☐ the Nativity Historic Preservation Foundation in my will

*The earth is the Lord's and all that is therein... Psalm 24:1 ✠ For God so loved the world that He gave His only son...John 3:16*

January 6, 2016