

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

July 6, 2016

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.



CHURCH
OF THE
NATIVITY,
EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

Worship Schedule (* Nursery available)

SUNDAY

8:00 Rite I

Holy Eucharist
(Bibb Chapel)

*10:00am Rite II

Holy Eucharist
Children's Chapel

WEDNESDAY

Noon

Holy Eucharist
& Healing
(Bibb Chapel)

THURSDAY

6:00pm Rite II

Holy Eucharist
(Bibb Chapel)

Back in late Spring, we gathered at a Parish Family Spaghetti Supper to tell our stories about Outreach: how we act as God's hands and feet in the world. We call this " **Outreach**" in our community, but it can be called **mission** work, or even **evangelism** (not to be confused with "Evangelical," a politically -charged label with many connotations). The reason we can use "**outreach**," "**mission**," and "**evangelism**" interchangeably is because the Book of Common Prayer states:

"The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ,"

and that all members of the church are to engage in this work through worship, prayer, proclaiming the Gospel, promoting justice, peace, and love.

More than 40 of you filled out the forms asking about your participation in the mission of the Church, which covered 50+ volunteer opportunities inside and outside the walls of this parish! (The list of opportunities is on page 4)

I'd like to share some of those responses to what people love about serving others:

"Working with youth people is always a joy, to see the light go on. Providing organizational direction is a joy to share purpose and progress with others."

"I love helping others because I feel that is what our Lord wants me to do."

"Help(ing) form young children – teach good sportsmanship and work effort."

"I push myself to help others even when I would rather do something else."

"I get to try to increase opportunities for other people."

What do you find challenging about helping others?

"We so often tend to stay in our comfort zone."

"Listen more than you talk"

"I had to find the place and way (to help) that fit me – a way that inspires me."

"Finding the right words – knowing what to say."

It is so important to respond to those challenges as helping us grow as individuals, but also as ways to seek God's mercy and justice, asking questions about the status quo in our local and global community:

How can we be more efficient, use resources more wisely?

We are called as a specific part of the Body of Christ to ask how we can better use the resources at our disposal to demonstrate that God's Kingdom is already here. We can give of our financial resources, of course. But giving our time, and sharing our talents and passion - - That is what builds relationships, heals wounds of loneliness and despair, restores hope, and brings about the unity of God's good creation. And that giving can happen anywhere, anytime! It doesn't have to be AT church to be part of God's mission in the world!

If you have ideas for where and how we can reach-out in love in our community, our world, contact Nativity's Outreach Committee Chair, Lee Hicklen, or the Outreach Vestry Liaison, Margaret Day Baker, to offer your suggestions for projects and programs to explore, and to learn which organizations Nativity already supports.

Every program at Nativity started with an idea, sparked by the Holy Spirit. Where is the Spirit leading us to serve?

Bonnie

Children's Corner Children's Sunday Formation

CAMP NATIVITY VBS



The Campground is full but a few more volunteers would be great!
Come be a cabin counselor or activity helper.

Teens register to volunteer here.

Adults can volunteer by contacting Mary Coe. mcoe@nativity-hsv.org

Diaper Drive

Thank You! To all the families who participated in the children's formation diaper drive supporting Foster Care Families of Madison County.

Our Nursery Director, Audrey Clayton, delivered a truck load of diapers!



Nativity Music Presents

Our Summer Choir is in session through August 21st!

If you've wanted to sing in choir but can't commit to regular rehearsals during the year, Summer Choir is for you!

Rehearsals will be on Sunday mornings in the Nave at 9:00 before the 10:00am service.

We will rehearse the music for that particular service.

Everyone is welcome to join to sing in Summer Choir

For more information contact Christian Crocker at 256.533.2455 x 216 ccrocker@nativity-hsv.org.



Farewell reception for William Blackerby, Nativity's Youth Director

Sunday, July 24,
following the 10:00am service - Ridley Hall
Please join us to thank William for his efforts and contributions as Nativity's Youth Director as he and his wife Kristin begin the next chapter of their lives in Birmingham.

Lemonade in the Shade



**Sunday morning
following the 10:00am service**

Volunteer to staff the hospitality table -
It's easy & fun and a great activity for the whole family.

Details and online sign-up:

tinyurl.com/nativitylemonade2016

Hosted by Nativity's Blue Apron Ministry

Centering Prayer, Pot-luck Dinner, and a Movie Tuesday, July 26, 5:30pm - Ridley Hall

Please join our Centering Prayer group for the second movie in our annual summer series.

We start with a Centering Prayer sit, then serve dinner while watching the movie.

Afterwards, we have a brief discussion.

A River Runs Through It



Two fly-fishing brothers, straitlaced scholar Norman and trouble-finding gambler Paul, struggle to mollify their Presbyterian preacher father's lofty moral -- and fishing -- standards.

Please bring a dish to share and join us for an evening of spiritual connection and sharing.

Please contact Brenda Chynoweth
256 464-9457 brendacc@knology.net
with any questions



Meals on Wheels

Outreach opportunity!

We are in need of a few volunteers to deliver meals .The Nativity team delivers meals the third Thursday of every month. This takes about 2 hours in the morning (beginning at 10.30am).

Very often you are the only visitor these people have all day and they really appreciate a friendly smile, a few kind words, and a hot meal .

Please contact Jennie Coe (256.883.6398)

ronjcoe@yahoo.com if you want to sign up or have any questions.



Save the Date - Saturday, July 23 'Stop Hunger Now' meal-packaging event



with St. Thomas Episcopal Church. This year's event will be at St. Thomas.

Details and sign-up information will be provided as soon as it is available.

Support the Huntsville Association for Pastoral Care!

Tuesday

July 12, 2016

Help raise funds by eating at:

NOTHING BUT NOODLES
4800 Whitesburg Dr.

(The Village on Whitesburg Shopping Center)

10:30 am - 9:00 pm

Just let the cashier know when you are ordering your meal--eat-in or take out all day long--that you are a friend of Huntsville Association for Pastoral Care (HAPC) and HAPC will benefit from each purchase.

For more information:

The Rev. Carl Malm, Executive Director, HAPC

Supporting chaplaincy and spiritual care in North Alabama since 1977

P.O. Box 16032

Huntsville, AL 35802

256.883-6539/malmcarl@hotmail.com

What Are You Reading?

With children at home more this summer or visiting with grandparents, we thought we'd outline a list of books that encourage kindness and empathy. Couldn't we all use a reminder? *Thanks to Marcie Wingo for the idea*

We All Sing With The Same Voice

Those Shoes

The Three Questions

Have You Filled A Bucket Today? A
Guide To Daily Happiness For Kids

Horton Hears A Who

Rude Cakes

A Sick Day For Amos McGee

Enemy Pie

The Giving Tree

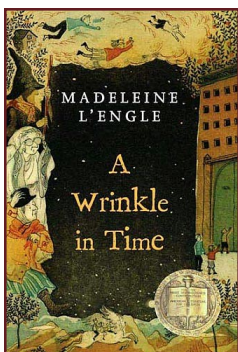
Each Kindness

Ordinary Mary's
Extraordinary Deed

[Click or tap here for
a summary of these books at
Buzzfeed.com](#)

Last Stop On Market Street

The Invisible Boy



In addition, here is a recommendation for older children. *contributed by Mary Johnson*

Looking for something for your middlers to read this summer? How about Madeleine L'Engle's *Wrinkle in Time*, which has just come out in a 50th Anniversary Commemorative edition and is said to be one of the greatest titles in all of 20th Century literature.

I remember my son, who wasn't much of a reader at that time, happened to read this and was blown away. Thus began his lifetime love of reading. It has everything to hold one's attention: fantasy, science, mystery, good and evil, a plucky heroine and it could be said to be a road map for making the world a better place through compassion at even the worst of times. Check it out.

'What are you Reading?' is a book review column brought to you by Nativity's Spiritual Development Committee. Please let us know what you are reading by contacting:

Mary Johnson: maryjohnson2@knology.net or Laura Malone lpmalonepi@gmail.com.

(Outreach - continued from page 1)

Here are the volunteer opportunities listed at our Spaghetti Supper Outreach event.

...Every program at Nativity started with an idea, sparked by the Holy Spirit.
Where is the Spirit leading us to serve?

Teach	Happening/Cursillo Support	Al-Anon Volunteer
La Leche League	Sewing for community needs	Friends, Inc.
Alabama Arise Volunteer	Garden Guild	Nativity Bazaar
Coach	First Stop	Clearview Cancer Center Volunteer
Acolytes	New Creations	Arts Council
Nativity Friends of Music	Public Library	WomenAde
Teaching music	Home visits	HSV Inner City Learning Center
LEM	Habitat for Humanity	Episcopal Relief & Development
Church committees	Hospice volunteer	Wellstone Volunteer
Donate platelets	Blossomwood Weekend Lunch Packs	Alumni Advisor
Greene Street Market	Usher	
Choir	Crisis Pregnancy Ministry	
DOK	Reading Buddies	
Altar guild	Meals on Wheels	
HSV Women's Tennis Association	Botanical Garden	
Stephen Ministry	Russell Erskine Veggie Shopper	
Tutoring	Feed My Sheep	
Downtown Rescue Mission	Church office	
305 8th Street	Oscar Mason Kids Treats	
Brookdale Senior Living	HAP Food Delivery	
Kairos	Eucharistic Visitor	
Sawyerville	Making soap for Limestone Prison Inmates	
Blue Apron	Adult Learning Center	
Bethany Village	Funeral Hospitality	

Outreach in Action

The Soap Reunion Group

The Soap Reunion Group proves that outreach can be both fun and inexpensive.

About ten years ago a group who attended a Cursillo weekend formed a Reunion Group. The group's purpose was to build a Christian community among its members, keep each other on track spiritually, and do outreach. We call outreach "Apostolic Action", but outreach is outreach.

Several people in our group got interested in being a part of a prison ministry after hearing the experiences of Gaines Watts, one of our members who has served on more than 40 Kairos teams. As an additional four members of our group have served on Kairos teams, we have become familiar with Limestone Correctional Facility and the needs of the inmates.



"Apostolic Action", one bar at a time

Inmates in the Alabama correctional system are not provided with personal care products like soap and toothpaste, but have to buy them through the prison system. So what about a man in prison at Limestone who can't afford to buy soap and toothpaste? And it turns out that there are SEVERAL HUNDRED prisoners in Limestone who are in this category. They have no family support network, and they have no way to get money to buy the basics of personal care. Other inmates ostracize them for their lack of hygiene. Think about that.

So we started thinking. Here we are in a reunion group that has a soap factory owned by one of its members. Soap made in a batch process has ends and pieces and leftovers that can be reprocessed and extruded into soap bars. All that is needed is some specialized equipment, lots of labor, and transportation to get the soap to the prison chaplain to distribute.

To date we have sent several thousand bars of soap to Limestone Correctional Facility. That may not fill the needs of all of the indigent inmates, but it is a contribution. We estimate that 1,000 bars (the normal amount produced each time we meet) provides enough soap to last the indigent inmates about six weeks. And we do this outreach project several times each year.

This ministry has been an outgrowth of knowing what is going on with the inmates on a personal level. Many of them are without hope. Our group's mission is to provide some hope to the men with no resources and to let them know that there are people who care about them.

Richard and Elaine Hamner (center) at Green Mountain Soap Co., Inc., and the Soap Reunion Group (L to R): Gaines Watts, Lou Durnya, Michael Shipley, Ronnie Rogers, Tom Devenish, Not pictured: Ken Barnett, Skipper Colin, David Collette, Ronny Crawford, David Hardy, Bob Thompson, Bob Serio, , and in Memory of Jack Little.

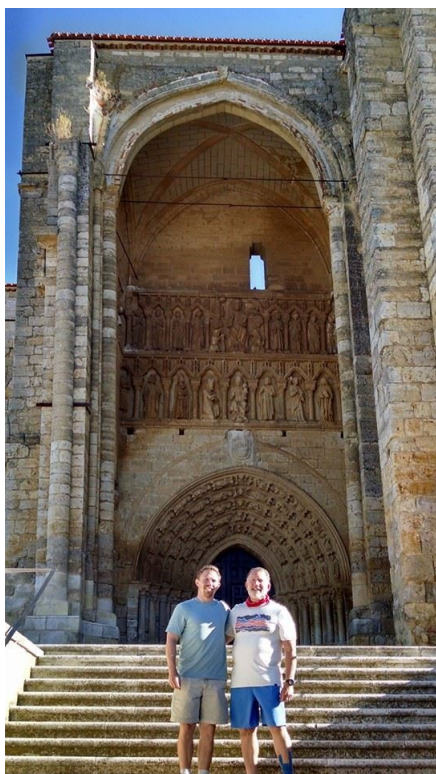


Father Andy Anderson's Sabbatical.

"The focus of my Sabbatical is walking the ancient Christian pilgrimage path, the Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James) in the north of Spain. Flying to Madrid June 13, I begin the traditional *camino frances* in St. Jean Pied de Port in France June 15. It's about 495 miles to Santiago."



During his pilgrimage, he is sharing photos and thoughts through facebook. tinyurl.com/nathsvfacebook
Here is a sampling of his photos:



Fr. Andy and his son Case at the
Knights Templar Church



A Fourth of July celebration—not quite—
The Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul (June 23rd)



St. John

2017 VESTRY NOMINATIONS

We want to hear from you!

The Vestry Nominations Committee is developing a slate of nominees for the upcoming year. According to the Nativity by-laws, the Vestry Nomination Committee submits a slate of proposed new Vestry members to the congregation for approval at the Annual Parish Meeting on November 13th.

You may recommend someone in the parish or submit your own name for consideration. Vestry membership requirements are set forth in the Nativity By-laws :

- confirmed member of Nativity
- regular in attendance,
- made or kept a pledge for at least the current year.

There are several ways to submit a nomination:

- Click or tap the nomination proposal for an electronic nomination form
- Drop boxes located on the Hospitality table in Ridley Hall and in the hallway by the Banister Room
- Mail your nomination proposal

The Church of the Nativity, Episcopal
Attn: Nominations Committee
208 Eustis Ave.
Huntsville, AL 35801

VESTRY NOMINATION PROPOSAL

<http://tinyurl.com/NativityVestry2017>

Candidate: _____

email: _____

Phone (personal): _____

Work: _____

What strengths would this person bring to the Vestry: _____

In what Parish activities has this person participated? _____

Have you discussed this with the person; if elected, would he/she agree to serve on the Nativity Vestry? _____

Your signature _____

Printed name _____

Date: _____

Thank you for your input on this candidate. The Nominations Committee meets regularly to consider all proposed nominees and to ensure representative leadership from the entire Parish.

Art in the Banister Room



This month Tatyana Igumnova Hankinson

"I get inspiration from different places around the world and my paintings reflect love for places I have lived and visited. I like oil and pastel for the variety of colors, and watercolor for its spontaneity. Painting in different media gives me freedom to experiment, I paint oil paintings in 'unpredictable watercolor' style.

I hope you will fall in love in my subjects as I have."

igumnova-art.com

HAP for July



Items Needed

little canned hams
spaghetti sauce
spaghetti noodles
cereal
soups
canned vegetables
canned beans
and toilet paper!

Thanks for all your support!

Acolyte Schedule

July 2016

Some of you may have been moved to positions for which you have not received training (we've had 15 of our seniors take their leave!) so if that's the case, please help us out by arriving NO LATER than 15 minutes before the start of the service so we can give you some quick instructions. Thank you all for being so flexible, and have a great July!

July 3 A/M Mike Ward

8:00 Tess Lambert

10:00 C Evan Ward, Steuart Evans

T Mary Kate Brooks, Madelyn Alison

T Clay Walker, Mary Ellis Alison

S Molly Ward

AS Elizabeth Evans

July 10 A/M Clay Sherrill

8:00 Karsten Correale

10:00 C Dylan Chenoweth, Margaret Foster

T Paxtyn Whitney

T Thomas Aldag

S Sarah Whelden Hall

AS Alice Malone

July 17 A/M Dorrie Nutt

8:00 Sam Hartley

10:00 C Leighton Luther, Katherine Hunter

T Evans Bryant, Betsy Bryant

T Bailey Morrison, Evan Ellison

S Joshua Huskey

AS Margaret Bryant

July 24 A/M Clay Sherrill

8:00 Tess Lambert

10:00 C Forrest Webber, Ellie Walker

T Clay Walker, Patrick Ahearn

T Jed Rainey, Britt Webber

S Parker Sanders

AS Ella Jane Duncan

July 31 A/M Dorrie Nutt

8:00 Karsten Correale

10:00 C Sidney Gunter, John Laney

T Evelyn Warren

T Cameron Pinson

S Ireland Braudaway

AS Huston Morring

PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray for those whom prayers have been requested:

Dick Gragg, Evin Sanna Olsen, Fred Lackey, Nancy Lackey, Charlie Lyle, Bess Smith, Kim Tycer, Rick Barnett, David Reynolds, Betty Gerlach, Bob Adams, Claude Boykin, Claire Johnston, Leigh Wahl, Fr. Dan McKee, Lee Kinzer May, Anna Post, Warren Vann, Bob Ward, Avery Tincher, Millie Byram, Jacob Brown, Becky Sodikoff, Gloria Hyatt, Bob Hale, Katherine White, Elsie Olsen

We pray for the departed:

Denny Stewart, brother of Christi Falt
Rev'd Peter Horn, former Nativity Interim Rector

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

US Army, Guice Moore
US Navy, Kenneth Vandervoort
US Navy, Jesse Teal

We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

7/6 Joseph Cantey	7/8 Kate Albritton	7/10 Alexander Allbee	7/10 Daniel Starnes
7/11 Harvey Wilson	7/11 Evelyn Hendrickson	7/12 Alex Elliott	7/14 Allison Taylor
7/17 Caroline Ayers	7/19 Harper Hudson		

Nativity Lodge at Bethany Village

Construction of the Lodge is complete!

Now we need a few things for the inside to make your stay more comfortable.



*** Here are the things we need ***

- 1 coffee table; less than 3 feet in diameter
- 1 large dining room table that seats 8 or more
- 8 or more chairs to go with the table
- 2 - 3 bookshelves
- 11 wall mirrors (1 per guest room)

If you would like to donate one or more of the items listed,
please contact Fr. Rusty or Connie in the church office.

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 Noon Monday, July 18th

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

Regina Milton
Weekend 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 - Senior Warden

Allen Daniels - Junior Warden

Robert Dunn - Finance Chair

Brandon Smith - Treasurer

Margaret Devenish - Clerk

Brenda Chynoweth - Adult Formation

Beverly Farrington -
Long-Range Planning

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 phone 256.533.2455 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

2016 ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION FORM

To dedicate Altar flowers, 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 (256) 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 - 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: _____

Available Dedication Dates

August 28

November 27

December
4, 11, 18

July 6, 2016