

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

July 20, 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)

Before I began serving as the youth minister here at Nativity, I had a lot of conversations with those youth ministers who have formed and influenced me over the years to try to get a sense of what I was getting myself into. One of those people expressed her excitement about my then-new role, and said that I would be in her prayers, because being a youth minister is “precarious.”

That word has stuck with me over the past three and a half years. I would not have expected her to use that word about the role of a youth minister, yet as I look back on my time here, there's no better word to describe it. The word comes from a Latin root (you know I couldn't get through this article without bringing up some Latin, right?) meaning prayer, which certainly seems fitting. Over the years the word acquired connotations like uncertain and unsafe. And those fit too – it seems accurate to describe whitewater rafting, zip lining, and skiing as unsafe!

But maybe what she really meant, in a broader sense, is that youth ministry is risky, not because of the occasional physical danger, but because truly getting to know someone is risky. Forming an honest relationship with someone is risky. It's precarious. Yet that's what people who work with youth are called to do: to know them and to show them God's love.

Sometimes, the outcome of risk is reward. And I have been immensely rewarded here at Nativity. I have been privileged to be part of significant moments in the lives of the families here. I have watched young people grow from twerps into thoughtful caring people. I have made new friends. I have participated in the rich, vibrant worship life of this parish. I have been made welcome, and have received grace, and have experienced the love of God with you and among you.

I've been hurt, too. I've been stretched, exhausted, angry, frustrated, and annoyed. Yet in each of those moments, thanks to God, there has been redemption and reconciliation. Relationships have grown even stronger. Risk – precariousness – has, in the long run, resulted in reward.

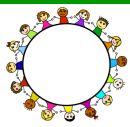
As I prepare to leave this parish in just a few short days, I'd like to send you an invitation. I invite you to take a risk and become part of youth ministry here at Nativity. Get to know someone in 7th through 12th grades. Chaperone a trip, help lead EYC, organize a Bible study. Because youth ministry is not solely the domain of paid, professional staff. It's actually part of your job as a faithful Christian.

Finally: thank you, thank you, thank you for making me feel at home in my brief time here. I will truly miss this place and will fondly remember its people and the many wonderful experiences I have had here.

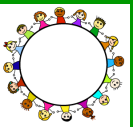
Your friend in Christ,

William





Children's Corner Children's Sunday Formation

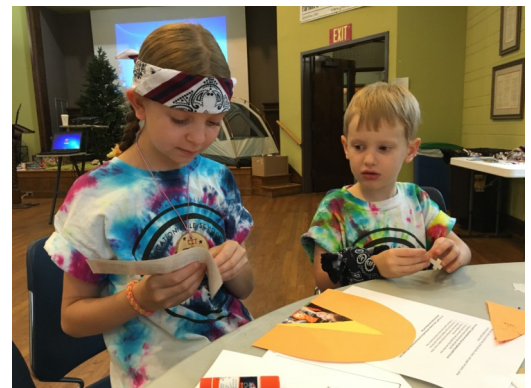


CAMP NATIVITY VBS



A Cookout! Sing-alongs! Crafts! Tye Dye! Stories by the Campfire!

This year's Camp Nativity Vacation Bible School was a great success! THANK YOU to all the campers, counselors, and volunteers who made Camp Nativity a wonderful week to remember.



Young Adults & Twentysomethings

Monday, July 25, 5:30pm

Will be meeting this month at:

Fire Wok Asian Bistro
11310 S. Memorial Parkway

RSVP to [Mtr. Bonnie McCrickard](#) by July 22



[Nativity Young Adults/Twentysomethings](#)

Farewell reception for

William Blackerby,

Nativity's Youth Director

Sunday, July 24th,

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.

Blessing of the Backpacks

August 14th

10:00am Service



All school aged children are invited to bring their backpacks, tote bags, or computer bags to receive a blessing and set the tone for a new school year.

Blossomwood Elementary Weekend Food Packs:

Coming soon: Sign-ups for weekly food pickup, packing, and delivery.

Watch our website and facebook page for info on how you can get involved!

Blossomwood is a partner with
Nativity's Outreach Ministry



EYC Kick-off

Sunday, August 7th ,4:00-6:00 PM

Olympics Themed all Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) kick-off for 7th-12th grades!

Come play some games, eat some great food, and get to know fellow Nativity youth

Dress comfortably so you can run around.

For the Parents of 7-12th graders at Nativity!

Following the EYC kickoff, please attend a brief Youth Parent Meeting with Mtr. Bonnie McCrickard on August 7th at 5:45pm in The Loft (3rd floor Joffrion Hall).

We will discuss the youth programming calendar for the coming year, including

- Sunday School and EYC
- travel plans and retreats
- service opportunities
- plans for Youth and Children's Sunday

All parents of 7th-12th graders at Nativity must turn in permission forms for their children to participate in youth programming for the 2016-2017 school year.

These forms, plus calendars and details for the year, will be available at the meeting.

Questions: Mtr. Bonnie McCrickard
bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org

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



the
**Greene
Street
Market**
at Nativity

Thursday Evenings through October 27

Docent led Church of the Nativity tours
Open to the public.

Tours begin at 5:30 & 6:30

Open-air Market and Artisan Alley

Thursdays: 4:00 - 8:00pm

The Greene Street Market Store

Mon, Tue, Wed, Friday: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Thursday: 2:00 - 8:00pm

Our bell is ringing!

Nativity's bell has recently been silent due to a broken return spring on the big bronze hammer. The new spring didn't fit the old shaft, so machine work had to be done to make all parts match.



When Nativity Sexton Marlin Wilder (above) and Richard Hamner made the ascent to the bell tower, they fixed the part and all appears to be well now.

Listen for Nativity's distinctive sound from our 1865 steel bell!

On August 21st, we invite you to...



Take home a rooster!

The Nativity Cursillo Community is hosting a painting party benefitting Alabama Cursillo.

Whether you are a member of our Cursillo Community, thinking about attending a Cursillo weekend, or just want to get together with your Nativity family and have some fun, you are invited.

Everyone will have the opportunity to paint a rooster (the symbol of Cursillo) to take home and enjoy a fun afternoon of fellowship.

TIME: 3:00-5:30pm (Ridley Hall)

COST: \$30 per person

RSVP: Your payment holds your spot.

You can drop it by the church office or give a check to: Debbie Collette, Dottie Crawford, or Holly Ellis

BRING: Your favorite beverage,
invite your friends!

'Stop Hunger Now' meal-packaging event

Saturday, July 23 10:00am

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



Click the logo for information and "pre-register" for the desired shift.

ANYONE can just show up, but it will be smoother if you pre-register.

Sunday on Thursday 6:00pm, Bibb Chapel

Remember Sunday on Thursday if you are unable to make it to church on Sunday morning. It's a service of Holy Eucharist every Thursday evening at 6:00pm in Bibb Chapel.

Come as you are!

Continue Your Spiritual Journey

EfM classes forming for fall and spring semester



EfM (Education for Ministry) is a four-year course offered at Nativity through the University of the South's School of Theology.

Participants study the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, Church History, and Theology. Weekly meetings focus on developing theological reflection; a way of examining and understanding our beliefs and lives as Christians.

Tuition, including texts, is \$350 per year. Scholarships are available.

To enroll, contact Ron Hogan ronhuntsville@yahoo.com or Ted Briggs tedlbriggs@gmail.com

for more information, click or tap the logo to visit efm.sewanee.edu.

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

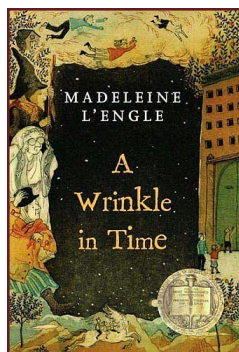
Each Kindness

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 *A 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.

Join us for a
Celebration
Of Our Ministry With

Bishop Santosh & Lynn Marray

Sunday August 28th

3:30 Reception
5:00 Service

St. Mary's on the Highlands
1910 12th Ave South
Birmingham, AL 35205

In honor of Bishop Marray's ministry with us, we invite you to give a monetary gift to help support the ministries and missions of the Diocese of Easton. Gifts should be sent to Carpenter House and made out to the Diocese of Alabama marked 'Bishop Marray Fund' or made on-line at www.dioala.org

KAIROS TRAINING

Anyone interested in prison ministry or attending a Kairos closing at Limestone Correctional Facility must attend a four-hour training session before you can enter the prison. Below are this year's classes:



- | | |
|--------|--|
| Aug 6 | Central Presbyterian Church
Huntsville, AL |
| Aug 25 | First Seventh Day Adventist Church
Huntsville, AL |
| Sep 17 | Capshaw Baptist Church
Harvest, AL |
| Oct 1 | Church of the Nativity
Huntsville, AL |
| Nov 5 | Hartselle Church of Christ
Hartselle, AL |
| Dec 3 | Bridge Builders Church International
Decatur, AL |
| Jan 7 | Lindsey Lane Baptist
Athens, AL |

For additional details, please contact:
Michael Shipley MichaelLShipley@aol.com
256.520.8741

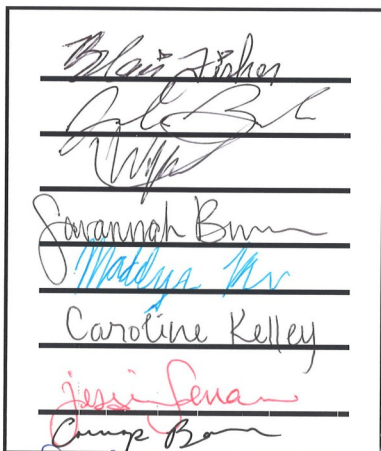


In recognition and appreciation to Church of the Nativity

For being in ministry with the people of the
Cumberland Mountains during the
summer of 2016.



"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:14



Liz Egan
Director
June 11, 2016
Date

Father Andy Anderson's Sabbatical.

On July 19th, Father Anderson completed his nearly 500 mile pilgrimage by walking the ancient Christian pilgrimage path, the Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James) in the north of Spain. Over the past five weeks, he has shared his photos and observations along the way through facebook.

tiny.cc/nathsvfacebook



100 kilometers remaining
(just over 62 miles)



For Nativity's Cursillistas



Cruz de Ferro, one of the highest point on the Camino. Every pilgrim leaves a stone representing their holy intentions for their pilgrimage.



Tired but happy - Arrival in Santiago.
Fr. Andy and son Case

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.

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Please print all information

Available 2016 Dedication Dates ~ November 27 December 4, 11, 18

Date desired: _____

Your Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Would you share a dedication? Yes No

Do you wish to have your name listed in the bulletin? Yes No

Name for this altar flower dedication: _____

If you have questions, you may call Andrea at (256) 539-2673.

(\$40 or \$20 for shared dedications)
Please make your check payable to:

Nativity Flower Guild

Please check your desired dedication:

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

Mail your form and check to:

Andrea Vandervoort
434 Locust Ave
Huntsville, AL 35801

Lemonade in the Shade



Will take a break on July 24th

So everyone can enjoy William Blackerby's reception
Look for the table in the Church Yard on July 31st.

Volunteer to staff the hospitality table

tiny.cc/nathsvLemonade

Hosted by Nativity's Blue Apron Ministry

Huntsville Assistance Program for July



Items Needed

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

soups
canned beans

Thanks for all your support!

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.



Upcoming Events at a Glance August

7th	HAP Sunday All EYC Kick-off & parent meeting.....	4:00pm
14th	Blessing of the Backpacks..... 2nd Serve Sunday resumes.....	10:00 service 6:00pm
17th	Youth choristers rehearsals start Junior - 4:15, Novice - 4:45, Senior - 5:00pm	
18th	Friends of Music recital, Jeffrey Dortch & Dr. Frank Contreras	6:30pm
21st	Alabama Cursillo "Take home a Rooster" painting party.....	3:00pm
23rd	Centering Prayer pot luck dinner & a movie, <i>The Mission</i>	5:30pm
24th	Adult choir rehearsals start	7:00pm
28th	Rally Day all Parish picnic..... following the 10:00 service Men's Ministry social (off-site)	5:30pm

PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray for those whom prayers have been requested:

Ron Cook, Dick Gragg, Evin Sanna Olsen, Fred Lackey, Nancy Lackey, Charlie Lyle, Bess Smith, Kim Tyner, Rick Barnett, Betty Gerlach, Bob Adams, Claude Boykin, Claire Johnston, Leigh Wahl, Fr. Dan McKee, Lee Kinzer May, Bob Ward, Avery Tinch, Millie Byram, Jacob Brown, Becky Sodikoff, Gloria Hyatt, Bob Hale, Katherine White, Elsie Olsen

We pray for the departed:

Helen Whitlock, sister of Betty Giardini
Marvin Knight IV, son of Donna & Marvin Knight III
Bill Gass, step-father of Beth Durnya

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

US Navy, Kenneth Vandervoort
US Navy, Jesse Teal

We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

7/20 Carter Whitehead	7/20 Reagan Huskey	7/21 Alice Mae Hinton	7/23 Dylan Chenoweth
7/24 Madison Doss	7/26 Lilly Durnya	7/26 Anna Zuga	7/28 Tripp Elliot
7/28 Anna Crawford Mullins	7/29 Greer Baker	7/29 Sadler Evans	7/31 Ellie Roderick
8/2 Caroline Cooper	8/2 Sean Berman	8/2 Caroline Brooks	

Parish Financial Report - Period Ending 6/30/2016				
	CURRENT MONTH	BUDGET for PERIOD	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD
Pledges Received	90,914.10	103,610.56	575,403.67	633,331.67
Plate	5,363.10	7,083.33	38,713.42	42,500.02
Other Revenues	(506.32)	10,292.01	33,230.47	60,247.94
TOTAL	95,770.88	120,985.90	647,347.56	736,079.63
Diocesan, School of Theology, & Outreach	28,838.99	24,864.82	127,511.46	152,313.34
Personnel	67,819.71	71,250.00	439,947.57	427,500.00
Other Expenses	20,873.79	24,948.54	127,624.46	155,854.55
TOTAL	117,532.49	121,063.36	695,083.49	735,667.89
NET \$	(21,761.61)	\$ (77.46)	\$ (47,735.93)	\$ 411.74

Copies of financial records and vestry minutes are available in the church office for members to review. Please contact Beverly Franklin or Amy Baxter to set up a time to review these documents.

Vestry meetings are open to the congregation. Vestry meetings are the **third Tuesday** of each month, beginning at 5:30pm in Joffrion Hall, 2nd Floor, East (J2E).

WORSHIP SCHEDULE August 2016, published 7/20/16

WEDNESDAY, August 3, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	McCrickard	Lea Ann Barnett	

THURSDAY, August 4, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
6:00 pm	McCown	Sally Ann Culver	

SUNDAY, August 7, 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
8:00 am	Holland-Shuey	Sue Johnson, Ralph Shuey		Steve Johnson	Steve Johnson
10:00 am	McCrickard	Holland-Shuey	Lane Mickle, Hanns Billmeyer, Robert Dunn	Ron Hogan, Sally Ann Culver	Rich Goodwin

WEDNESDAY, August 10, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	McCown	Mary Hendricks	

THURSDAY, August 11, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
6:00 pm	Foreman	Don Lambert	

SUNDAY, August 14; 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
8:00 am	Foreman	Joan East, Bob Serio		Bob Serio	Joan East
10:00 am	McCown	Foreman	Walter Thames, Mike Ward, Rich Goodwin	Bankston Creech, Amy Creech	Melissa Kirkindall

WEDNESDAY, August 17, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	McCrickard	Joan East	

THURSDAY, August 18, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
6:00 pm	McCown	Sally Ann Culver	

SUNDAY, August 21, 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
8:00 am	McCown	Allen Daniels, Don Lambert		Allen Daniels	Don Lambert
10:00 am	McCrickard	McCown	Peter Cobun, Margaret Bibb, Pat Quirk, Deborah Baker	Jennifer Dill, Elaine Hamner	Shirley Hale

WEDNESDAY, August 24, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	Foreman	Mary Hendricks	

THURSDAY, August 25, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	
6:00 pm	McCrickard	Bob Serio	

SUNDAY, August 28; 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
8:00 am	McCrickard	John Hendricks, Lane Mickle		John Hendricks	Lane Mickle
10:00 am	Anderson	McCrickard	Pat Sampson, Rich Spera, Gary Rasponi	Dianne Nettles, Walter Thames	Ronnie Rogers

WEDNESDAY, August 31, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	Anderson	Lea Ann Barnett	

USHERS

8:00	Robert Mullins, Chad Ayres, Michael McClung, Ray Morring, Brandon Smith, Greg Whitehead, Read Windham, Peter Barber
10:00	Steve Brouse, Sherman Dailey, Marina Prucha, Stephen Prucha, Teague Smith

ALTAR GUILD

6	Anne Carter, Judy Heacock, Sue Johnson, Sara Little, Sarah James
13	Caffey Litkenhous, Gail Brown, Rose Anne Shearer, Mary Johnson
20	Beth Pugh, Debbie Joyner, Jewell Reynolds, Emily Moody
27	Lea Ann Barnett, Wanda Cobb, Connie Stephenson, Sophia Rowe

CLERGY ON CALL SCHEDULE

August 1 – 7	August 8 – 14	August 15 – 21	August 22 – 28	August 29 – September 4
McCrickard	McCown	McCrickard	McCown	Anderson/McCrickard

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 , August 1st

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

Amey 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

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.