THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

September 21, 2016



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.

Bob Serio Called to Serve as Nativity's Deacon

On October 1st, God willing, Dr. Bob Serio will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons in Christ's one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. We have many reasons to rejoice with Bob and his wife Peggy and their family about this journey of offering their lives to God's service in this focused way. But we especially celebrate because Bob's diaconal service, guided by the Bishop, will be through Nativity's life and ministry. I can only say, "Thanks be to God!"

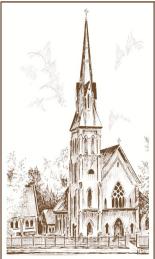
Bob shared the story of his journey to ordination in the mid-August Steeple, but it is finally great to know that his journey continues with us, his parish family. He's an integral part of our parish family. He's served on Nativity's Vestry and is a former Jr. and Sr. Warden. Among his many ministries, Bob taught Adult Sunday Church School, serves as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, and provides leadership to our Medical Mission trips, especially with Haiti. Bob is an Education for Ministry graduate, and he and Peggy are involved with Cursillo, just having returned from Cursillo #204 staff. Bob also plays a mean guitar with our Nativity Alleluia III Band!

The diaconal ministry has its roots in the early Church at Jerusalem when the church was growing like wildfire and the Apostles needed help caring for widows, orphans, and newcomers to the community. A deacon particularly models the servant ministry of Jesus we are called to reflect. In the name of Christ, Bob will be charged to serve all people, particularly the poor, the weak, the sick, and the lonely. At his ordination, Bishop Sloan will remind Bob that he is to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. His life and teaching are to show all of us that in serving the helpless we are serving Christ himself. A deacon brings the needs of the world to the Church and represents the Church to the world.

Bob has been doing these things in his life and ministry, as a physician, a husband, father and grandfather, and through his commitment to God in selfless ministry in the Church. Bob will be present in our liturgical worship, proclaiming the Gospel, preparing the Table for Eucharist, and sending us forth after worship to "love and serve the Lord." He will devote Tuesdays to his specific diaconal ministries and meet with the staff and clergy. Bob will offer an additional clergy presence in our pastoral care ministries (hospital and homebound visits), but he will primarily focus his diaconal ministry on end of life care for patients and their families. He will be a resource for us at Nativity and offer teaching and resources to the wider community and the Diocese. But remember, he will be "Deacon, not Doctor, Bob" when he makes pastoral visits! As appropriate, he will be involved with our outreach ministries.

I hope you'll celebrate with Bob at our Cathedral in Birmingham on October 1st and then again when he serves at Nativity for the first time on October 2nd (with a grand Nativity reception following the 11:00am. service).

I especially hope you will allow the Church's call to servant ministry that is held before us in our Deacons to influence your life and ministry. When I think of Bob and I think of the ministry of our Deacons...Mary Groff and Jeannie Robison before...I think of the word compassion. Servant ministry grows from compassion as we feel, shed tears and grieve for the pain of others and the suffering in the world around. Compassion is free from judgment and arises from a deep call to share forgiveness and mercy as Christ does. And finally, compassion reflects generosity in loving, giving, forgiving, sharing and caring. Our prayer for Bob, and for ourselves is that we would all grow in being compassionate just as Jesus taught us our Heavenly Father God is compassionate. After all, Deacons are a reflection of who we are all called to be!



CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY, EPISCOPAL

Est. 1843

Worship Schedule (* Nursery available)

SUNDAY

7:45 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)



Children's Formation



Sunday 9/25 St Francis Day, Remember to bring pet food donations for the Humane Society

If you haven't been to St. Francis Day at Nativity:

- Leashed or caged pets are welcome in the Sanctuary for the 8:45 service.
- Although rare, accidents can happen. Cleanup supplies are available if needed.
 Please take responsibility for your pet.
- It is a joyous, active service.









Dates to remember:

Wednesday 9/28, 5.30 Family Spaghetti Supper (\$5), 6.00 Bingo for all ages

Sunday 10/2, Fall Break, no children's Sunday School

Sunday 10/9 Children's Sunday School resumes

Wednesday 10/26 Family Supper (\$5) with activities for all ages

Sunday 10/30 5.30-7.00 6th Annual Trunk or Treat with First Presbyterian

Contact: Mary Coe mcoe@nativity-hsv.org



Save the Date!

Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 30 5.30 to 7.00

Don't miss out on a Scary Good Time!



GOD WILLING

THE RIGHT REVEREND JOHN MCKEE SLOAN
WILL ORDAIN

ROBERT ANDREW SERIO

TO THE SACRED ORDER OF DEACONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 10:00AM CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT, BIRMINGHAM, AL

ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2ND,
FOLLOWING THE 11:00AM SERVICE WE WILL HAVE A RECEPTION IN RIDLEY HALL
FOR DEACON BOB AND HIS WIFE PEGGY.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO SHARE IN THESE BLESSED EVENTS

Youth Notes

September 25th:

EYC groups throughout the region will be visiting Nativity for the Tennessee Valley Youth Day in Ridley Hall from 2:00-4:00pm.

Regular EYC on the 25th is cancelled so everyone can attend this fun event!

Youth Ski Trip:

Sign ups are now open for the youth ski trip, scheduled for the weekend of Feb.18-20, 2017

A non-refundable deposit of \$70 per person is due by October 6th

Contact Mother Bonnie to sign up bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org

Wednesday, September 28 - 5:30pm



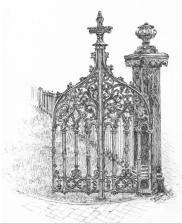
All-ages bingo following dinner.

As always, dinner reservations are appreciated but not required. The nursery is available for ages 4 and under (reservations required) \$5 per person - \$20 family maximum

Reservations:

email: Connie Gadomski cgadomski@nativity-hsv.org or

call the Church Office (256.533.2455)



ALL SAINTS' MEMORIAL DEDICATIONS

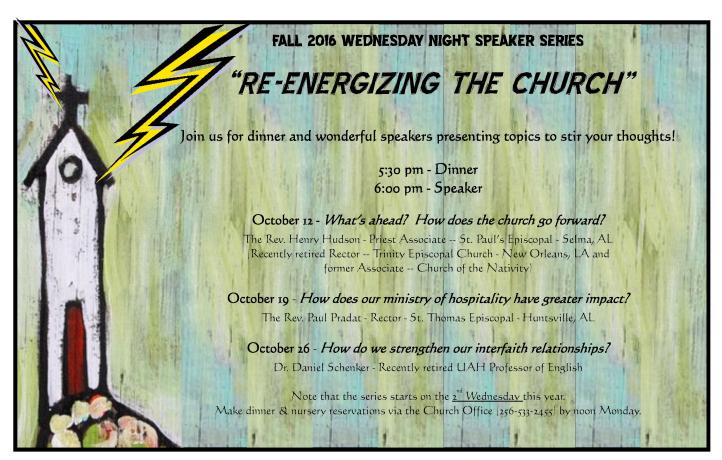
All Saints' Sunday, November 6, 2016 is a splendid time to honor your loved ones by making a memorial gift in their honor.

Your gift supports the purchase of annual and

perennial plantings, shrubbery, and trees that help make the garden and our church grounds one of Huntsville's most beloved spots for respite and contemplation.

<u>Please make your donation by Sunday,</u> <u>October 23 to be included in the special All</u> Saints' Sunday Memorial Service insert.

Checks should be payable to *Church of the Nativity* with annotation, Memorial Garden Fund. If you have questions, please contact Lane Tutt (256.533.2455) ltutt@nativity-hsv.org



Dinner and nursery reservations email Connie Gadomski <u>cgadomski@nativity-hsv.org</u> or call the Church Office (256.533.2455)

Sponsored by the Spiritual Development Ministry



Nativity Tours through September 29th

5:30 & 6:30pm

Open -air Market Hours September~ 4:00-7:00pm Effective October 6th 3:00-6:00pm



Market and Store are
a part of Nativity's Outreach Ministry

Bridge at Nativity Fridays, 1:00-3:00pm



Playing Bridge is a great social activity and an excellent strategy game that is a whole lot of fun! Four people are needed per table to play the game and two decks of cards are needed per table. If you already have a playing group, come join us on Friday.

Contact: Dottie Crawford (334-624-3388) dotcrawford2@gmail.com.

Baptisms

The next baptism date at Nativity will be Sunday November 6, 2016. Anyone wishing to have children baptized on that date should contact Mother Bonnie no later than Monday, October 17th

Contact: Mother Bonnie McCrickard bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org (256.533.2455 x207)

Upcoming Retreats & Seminars



Alabama Folk School

(Camp McDowell) Ongoing through November 6th

<u>Information & registration</u> ~ External Link



Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction

(Crestwood Medical Center) Orientation, September 26th

Mondays, starting October 10th,

Information & registration ~ External Link



The Journey: A day on Addiction & Recovery

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church (Birmingham)

October 15th

Two keynoters, Michael O'Keefe and Travis Meadows, will speak to the impact of addiction in their lives. O'Keefe is an actor best known for his role as Ben Meecham in The Great Santini and Danny Noonan in Caddyshack, and also an accomplished songwriter and author.

Meadows is a singer/songwriter from Nashville, Tennessee who describes himself as 'an orphan who turned into a preacher, a preacher who turned into a songwriter, a songwriter that turned into a drunk and a drunk that is learning to be a human being."

<u>Information & registration ~ External Link</u>

Academy for Spiritual Formation

(Camp McDowell) October 16-21 Immerse yourself in study and reflection on the spirituality of Christian hospitality in the company of the Rt. Rev. Kee Sloan and Dr. Amy Oden.

<u>Information & registration ~ External Link</u>

Medicine and Ministry of the Whole Person

(Winston-Salem, NC) November 3-6 Information & registration ~ External Link

HAP Sunday is October 2nd Huntsville Assistance Program (HAP)



Items Needed

Dry beans (1 lb.) rice (1 lb.) vegetables soup tuna bar soap

and if anyone is feeling generous... coffee!

Thanks for all your support!

Cookies for KAIROS



Please bring your cookies or brownies to the church office by Noon, Thursday Oct 6th

It's Cookie time again at Nativity. Kairos #62 at Limestone is Oct 6th -9th. . Remember you can pick up instructions at the Church Office or <u>online</u>, but here are a few short but important reminders:

- Place 12 cookies in a gallon zip lock bag, make sure they are cool before you seal them, this is very important
- No more than 12 per bag.
- No fruit or topping on any of the cookies.
- If you have a good recipe for sugar free cookies, please make some and mark the bag.

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.

Oct 1 Church of the Nativity 9:00am (Ridley Hall)

contact:: Michael Shipley

MichaelLShipley@aol.com 256.520.8741

STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

From *Earth-wise: A Biblical Response to Environmental Issues, The Con-servancy Principle* by Calvin B. DeWitt, we share the following:

...As we consider the earthkeeping principle, we note that Adam was expected to serve the creation and to keep it. The Hebrew word 'abad' ("serve") occurs 290 times in the Old Testament, and it is most often translated as "serve"... The various translations of 'abad' in Genesis 2:15 – "serve," "till," "dress," and "work" – relate to worthy service. God calls us to give the garden of creation our caring service.

We already know from experience that this garden serves us. It serves us with good food, beauty, herbs, fiber, medicine, pleasant microclimates, continual soil—making, nutrient processing, and seed production. The garden and the larger biosphere provide what ecologists call "ecosystem services" such as water purification by evaporation and percolation, moderation of flood peaks and drought flows by riversystem wetlands, development of soils from the weathering of rocks, and moderation of local climates by nearby bodies of water. Yet Genesis addresses our service to the garden. The garden's service to us is implicit; service from us to the garden is explicit.

Like Adam, we are expected to return the service of the garden with service of our own. This is the reciprocal service, a "service with." This reciprocal service defines an engaging relationship between the garden and the gardener, between the biosphere and its safeguarding stewards.

So we can call this "never taking from creation without returning service of our own." Our love of our Creator God, God's love of the creation, and our imaging this love of God — all join together to commission us as con-servers of creation. As conservers , we follow the example of the second Adam — Jesus Christ.

Used with personal permission of the author

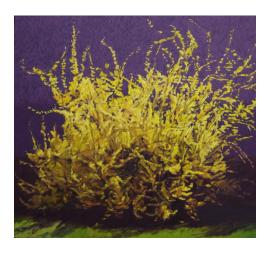
So how will you put these thoughts and principles into action in the coming days and weeks? What does this mean in your life and daily activities?

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

Art in the Banister Room



Helen Vaughn

"My aim as a painter is to bring to life a slice of the world as I experience it. Light, color and form are my vocabulary. With these paintings, I hope to communicate a part of my corner of the universe as I experience it in my seventh decade."

helenvaughn.com



For more information, contact Krista Lovell , Mission Coordinator at Faith Presbyterian Church (kristalovell@comcast.net)

www.presby.org * Facebook: Faith Presbyterian Church

Acolyte Schedule for October 2nd

8:45 A/M M Ward

C Parker Sanders, Bailey Morrison

T Catherine Hendricks*

T Elizabeth Evans

S Bailey Morrison

AS Ireland Braudaway

A/M D Nutt 11:00

C Bankston Creech, David DiFranco

T Sadie Anglin*

T Mary Maddox Creech

S David DiFranco

AS Mary Maddox Creech

The complete October Acolyte Schedule will be printed in the October 5th Steeple

Blossomwood Elementary Snack-Pack Program

Thank you for the encouraging notes for the snack packs. Cards can be picked up at the church office or in the Ridley Hall foyer. Any notes you write should be signed simply, "Your Nativity Neighbor."

Packing every Wednesday, 4:30pm, (Library)

Contact Vicky Hinton noregrets1@comcast.net_for information on how to get involved.

Blossomwood is a partner with Nativity's Outreach Ministry



THE VINE is seeking to create "sacred space" in our new offices. We are expanding!!! We need a few things, and we are hoping you might help.

Thank you for being a supporting church of

The Vine!!! As always, we are here to

> meet any counseling needs for you and your friends.



ITEMS requested:

- small 3-4 inch toys for sand-tray play therapy with children.
- . Steel case filing cabinets
- . Small desk for adults
- . Small table and chairs for kids
- . Misc. furniture

THE VINE, 256-270-7399 vine-ministry@vinepcc.com





Parish Financial Report - Period Ending 8/31/2016											
	CURRENT	BUDGET for PERIOD	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD							
	WONTH	TERIOD	ACTUAL TID	BODGETTID							
Pledges Received	107,283.38	103,610.56	790,606.80	840,552.79							
Plate	7,171.82	7,083.33	52,588.72	56,666.68							
Other Revenues	3,751.76	10,292.01	49,837.44	80,831.96							
TOTAL	118,206.96	120,985.90	893,032.96	978,051.43							
Diocesan, School of											
Theology, & Outreach	21,422.66	24,864.82	171,219.43	202,042.98							
Personnel	62,460.76	71,250.00	580,241.96	570,000.00							
Other Expenses	23,470.46	24,942.54	169,233.40	205,739.63							
TOTAL	107,353.88	121,057.36	920,694.79	977,782.61							
NET \$	10,853.08	\$ (71.46)	\$ (27,661.83)	\$ 268.82							

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 Tuesda**y of each month, beginning at 5:30pm in Joffrion Hall, 2nd Floor, East (J2E).

PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray for those whom prayers have been requested:

Gina Thurman, Genny Hoskins Beaver, Bradley Helton, Claire Johnston, Paloma Maria, Phyllis Beck, Betty Anne Councill, Dick Gragg, Rick Barnett, Betty Gerlach, Claude Boykin, David Reynolds, Jody Mowrer, Fr. Dan McKee, Bess Smith, Bob Hale, Leigh Wahl, Elsie Olsen

We pray for the departed:

Clyde Pearson

Mildred Lane

Frank Trowbridge

Wendell Elrod, father of Mark Elrod

Jack Charlton, former parishioner

Caroline Bright, wife of The Rev. Carl Bright

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

Afghanistan, Doug Faith

US Army Special Forces, Major Wes Williams

US Navy, Kenneth Vandervoort

US Navy, Jesse Teal

We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

9/24 Maura Farrell 9/23 Sarah Cote 9/24 Rebecca McCoy 9/25 Van Dodgen

9/25 Molly Manning 9/26 Alice Rowe 9/29 Emily Rowe 10/1 Beirne Spragins

110/4 Tessa Dollman 10/4 Huston Morring

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Please print all information

Two dates left for 2016! ~ December 4th & 18th

Date desired:	
Your Name:	
Phone #:	
Would you share a dedication? Yes No	
Do you wish to have your name listed in the bulletin? Yes	es 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

		I	WORSHI	P SCHEDULE Oct	ober, 2016; pub	olished 9/21/16	
				SUNDAY, October 2, 20 th			
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		•	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am		ickard	Don Lambe	ert		Don Lambert	Don Lambert
3:45 am	McCown	McCrickard		ane Mickle		Lynn Lewis	Lee Hicklen
11:00 am	Anderson	McCrickard		win, Deborah Baker		Debbie Collette, David Collette	Adalene Bledsoe
					, October 5, HE		
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM				
12 noon	McC	Cown	Cheryl Watt		0.4.10.115		
				THURSDAY,	October 6, HE		
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM				
6:00 pm	Fore	man		ALDIDAY A. I. A. A.			
	1	T	1	SUNDAY, October 9, 21s			T
Service	Celebrant	Preacher		erson, McCown, McCricka	rd – out)	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am		man	Sue Johnson			Sue Johnson	Sue Johnson
3:45 am	TBD	Foreman		Joan East, Allen Daniels		Lane Mickle	Shirley Hale
11:00 am	TBD	Foreman	Matt Farr, S	Sally Ann Culver, Virginia Kol		Sandy Brown, Mike Brown	Buddy Moon
				WEDNESDAY,	October 12, HE		
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM				
12 noon	Ande	erson	Joan East				
				THURSDAY, (October 13, HE		
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM				
6:00 pm	Ande	erson	Don Lambe	rt			
•				SUNDAY, October 16, 22 ⁿ	d Sunday after Pent	ecost	
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM (Seri	o – out)	_	Lector	Intercessor
':45 am	Ande	erson	John Hend			John Hendricks	John Hendricks
3:45 am	McCrickard	Anderson		ibb, Pat Quirk, Pat Sampson		Camille Sommer	Clay Sherrill
11:00 am	McCown	Anderson		Rich Spera, Hanns Billmayer		Pamela Briggs, Ted Briggs	Joan East
11.00 0111	1110001111	7 11 14 01 00 11	iviate i air, i		October 19, HE	Tamela Brigge, Tea Brigge	oodii Edot
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	112511205711	00.000.10,112		
12 noon	McCri		Mary Hendr	ricks			
12 110011	10001	ionara	I wary rional		October 20, HE		
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	monobar, c	JOIODCI ZO, IIL		
6:00 pm		Cown	Sally Ann C	ulvor			
0.00 pm	IVICC	OWII	Cally Alli C	SUNDAY, October 23, 23	rd Sunday ofter Dente	anat .	
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM (Ser		Sulluay after Perite	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am		Cown	Ken Barnet			Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett
						Melissa Kirkindall	Lane Mickle
8:45 am	Anderson	McCown		Robert Dunn, Lee Hicklen	.1		
11:00 am	McCrickard	McCown	Peter Cobl	ın, Walter Thames, Joan Eas		Robbie Shafer, Rhonwyn Watson	n Rich Goodwin
				WEDNESDAY,	October 26, HE		
Service		Preacher	LEM				
12 noon	McC	own	Lea Ann Ba				
	1	I = -	l . =	THURSDAY, (October 27, HE		
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM				
6:00 pm	Ande	erson					
			1	SUNDAY, October 30, 24	th Sunday after Pent		
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM (Farr			Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am		erson	Lea Ann Ba			Lea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett
3:45 am	McCrickard	Anderson	Charlie Wa	rren, Mike Ward		Jennifer Dill	Melissa Kirkindall
11:00 am	McCown	Anderson	Gary Rasp	oni, Sally Ann culver		Mickey Ellis, Ron Hogan	Ronnie Rogers
				USF	IERS		
3:45	Dale Moore	e, Pat Goodson.	Larry Gunter	, Rich Spera, Drew Tutt, Ann	a Warren		
11:00			,	Durnya, Benita Hayes, Tom			
		, .,,, 510	,		R GUILD		
Judy	Heacock Nano	v Colin Wanda	Cohb Caffey	Litkenhous, Linda Watts			
				Rebecca Brothers			
				Stephenson, Emily Moody			
22 Soph				nn Barnett, Nancy Colin			
	ua CODD. CATTEV	LILKENDOUS, LIN	iua vvatts, Sa	ra Little, Judy Heacock	ALL COUEDINE		
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29 Wand	-	A.4.1.	. 2 0	CLERGY ON CA		2 0-4-104 00	0-4-24 N2
29 Wand	26 – Oct 2 Crickard	October McCo		October 10 – 16 Anderson	October 17 – 2 McCrickard	3 October 24 - 30 Anderson	Oct 31 – Nov 6 McCown

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, October 3rd

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Andy Anderson Rector

The Rev. Rusty McCown Associate

The Rev. Bonnie McCrickard Associate

Christian Crocker

Choirmaster and Organist Lane Tutt

Adult Christian Formation

Coordinator of Youth Ministry

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

Upcoming Events at a Glance

September

*Family Spaghetti Dinner (Ridley Hall)......5:30pm 28th (Nursery reservations required)

October

KAIROS DOC Training (Ridley Hall)......9:00am 1st Diocesan Ordination Service for Vocational Deacons, Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham 10:00am

2nd No Children's Chapel or Children's Sunday School (Fall Break)

Reception for Deacon Bob and Peggy Serio

(following the 11:00am service)

Simple Eucharist (Bibb Chapel)6:30am 11th Men's Ministry Breakfast with a guest speaker7:00am

Starting Oct 12th

*Wednesdays in October - Dinner & a guest speaker Dinner - Chicken Divan, Speaker - The Rev. Henry Hudson (Nursery reservations required)

Baptism sign-up deadline for All Saints' Sunday (November 6th) 17th

*Nursery available