

# THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

January 4, 2017

## 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



**Bishop  
Kee Sloan's  
Christmas  
Message  
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**Nativity  
receives Icon  
gift**

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## Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Christmas Message

From Isaiah Chapter 9:

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given;  
and the government shall be upon His shoulder;  
and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*



These words of Isaiah are often seen as words that foretell and foreshadow the coming of Jesus of Nazareth, born of Mary. The truth is, these words befit Him because this child changed the world. This child changes lives. This child changes us.

I remember when our oldest daughter was a baby. My wife and I were young. We were footloose and fancy-free. It was just the two of us newlyweds, so if we wanted to go out to eat dinner, we went out to eat dinner. If we decided to go to a movie at the last minute, we just went. We actually felt like we had money back then. And we did have a little bit of discretionary income. We could pretty much do what we wanted to do, within reason, and we didn't have to think too much about the consequences or impact of a spontaneous decision and what we had to do to make that happen.

And then, all of a sudden, this little, innocent human being, a little child, came into our lives, and literally gained control over our entire world. Before we could do anything else we had to think about, "Who's going to keep the baby?" or "Is this a good time for us to go without the baby?" We soon learned that we were not in control of our lives anymore. Even our sleeping patterns became very different. We would stay awake when the baby was awake and we went to sleep when the baby went to sleep. Literally this child began to control our lives and the child didn't even know she was doing it. And then we had a second one she did the exact same thing. And I've since learned that that's what babies do. When they arrive they take over! And their parents begin to develop their lives around this child. To mold their entire lives around this precious needy baby.

Isaiah wrote, "Unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given... and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." This child who was born of Mary changes everything. This child born in a manger, wrapped in swaddling clothes changes how we live. This child born to the sound of angels singing *Gloria in excelsis Deo* — this child to whom the wise ones came from afar bearing gifts — this child, changed the way the entire world works.

And this Jesus, born into a world torn by strife and hatred and division and pain and poverty, this child is born anew wherever men and women say, "I'll follow Him. I'll follow Him as my Savior. I'll follow Him as my Lord."

When this child grew up, He said His reason for coming, again quoting Isaiah, from the 61st chapter, he said,

*The spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach Good News to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives, the recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty all those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.*

This child, when He grew up, came to show us the way to live lives of love, lives of compassion, lives of goodness, lives of kindness, lives of justice. This child came to show us how to change the world. So this Christmas, make room for him to change us. This Christmas help us change the world. And make a new commitment, to go out from this day, to let this Christmas Day, be the first day of a new world.

God bless you. God keep you. Have a blessed Christmas. A Happy New Year. And go on out and change the world!



# Children's Christmas Pageant

This year's Pageant was even more festive with beautiful new hand-sewn costumes for our angels, shepherds, and pageant royalty.



## Reminder:

Sunday School resumes on Jan 8th



**Thank you!** Pageant director Janis Miskelly; Costumers Margaret Devenish, Dottie Crawford and Lea Ann Barnett (pictured above); and all the volunteers. It was a beautiful pageant!





## 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 2017. Happy New Year!

### Nativity Newcomers Dinner Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> - 5:30pm

New to Nativity in the last year?  
We would be glad to welcome you!

There will be a dinner (off-site) along with the opportunity to meet other newcomers, Nativity clergy, and program staff.

To register:  
Contact the Church Office (256.533.2455) or email  
Connie Gadomski [cgadomski@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:cgadomski@nativity-hsv.org)



Organ Recital

**Kenneth  
Miller**

Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>,  
7:30pm

A Friends of Music  
Event

Works by: Johann Sebastian Bach, Oliver Messiaen,  
and Lionel Rogg.

Friday, February 3, 7:30pm ~ Echoing Air

[Click or tap for Nativity's Concert Series](#)

**THE LOFT**  
LIVING OUR FAITH TOGETHER  
EPC Church of the Nativity

## 2017 Youth Kickoff Event

**When:** Sun, Jan 8 from 4:30-6:00pm  
**Who:** All 7th-12th graders & their Parents  
**Where:** The LOFT (3rd floor Joffrion)  
**Why:** To get together, have fun and look our 2017 events calendar  
**What to bring:** An appetizer to share & your calendar

All youth and their parents are encouraged to gather together for our 2017 kickoff event. We'll play games and spend time with parents and youth looking at our 2017 calendar.

## WINTER WEEKEND

**JANUARY 13-16, 2017**

A 3 NIGHT RETREAT FOR ALL  
7TH AND 8TH GRADERS  
**Price: \$145**

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ALABAMA  
CAMP McDOWELL

[campmcdowell.com/winter-weekend](http://campmcdowell.com/winter-weekend)

Contact Stratt Byars at [stratt@campmcdowell.com](mailto:stratt@campmcdowell.com) for more information  
Website for Registration and Information: <http://campmcdowell.com/winter-weekend>

### Nativity 101: A Class for ANYONE New to Nativity Begins January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 10:00am in Ridley Hall

Nativity 101 is for anyone, including Episcopalians who have transferred in or in the process of transferring their letter. This class is the foundation for our Seekers / Catechumenate Class process that continues February 12<sup>th</sup> for anyone seeking to be Confirmed or Received into our Episcopal Church Community or existing Episcopalians who desire to renew their Baptismal Covenants.

- January 8 Who are we; Nativity Episcopalians?
- January 15 Church Manners and Etiquette
- January 22 *The Book of Common Prayer* (BCP) Practical Implications
- January 29 Sunday Worship, The Eucharist (what we do when and why!)
- February 5 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)



## A Christmas Message from Bishop Kee Sloan



It's one of our favorite stories, still compelling after all these years: Joseph and Mary, expecting their first child, are required by the politics of the day to leave their home in Nazareth of Galilee and go to his family's hometown, little Bethlehem in Judea. It was something they had to do, something about a census, something beyond their control. And while they were there, the child was born. They had no place to stay, so they wrapped their new son in what cloths they could, and laid him in a trough used to feed the animals.

It's compelling in its ordinariness, in its humanity: they're caught up in something they didn't choose and while they are making the best of difficult situations, in the middle of all that turmoil and uncertainty, a child was born. Like the birth of most children, it was at the same time completely ordinary and altogether extraordinary, routinely miraculous.

As the story goes on, as we combine and join together different traditions and narratives, angels appear to shepherds watching their flocks to sing about good news of great joy for all the people, and then a few days later mysterious strangers come from the faraway East to bring extravagant gifts. The neighbors must have wondered what in the world was going on.

But Mary knew. Joseph knew. They couldn't have known the end of the story, but they knew the beginning, that Mary had given birth not to Joseph's son, but - incredibly - to the Son of God.

Into the darkness, into the ordinary, into the confusion and strife of the world Jesus was born and laid in a manger. The Word of God became flesh, the limitless extraordinary invaded the mundane complacent everyday, and the Light of Christ pushed the crowding darkness back.

We are invited into the mystery of the Incarnation of Almighty God, to come and behold the infant King, to sing with the angels, to wonder with the shepherds, to offer our gifts alongside the wise of the far-flung world. We are invited to take up the Light of Jesus the Messiah and shine it into the darkest corners of our lives and of this world. The Light of Christ, born so long ago in little Bethlehem, still shines when we hold it up in our faith in Jesus Christ, in the hope of the Spirit of God, and in the joyful forgiving love of our gracious God.

I hope you and yours have a wonderful, beautiful and meaningful Christmas.

### Men's Ministry Breakfast

Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, *Suggested donation \$5*

6:30am Simple Eucharist, Bibb Chapel

7:00am Breakfast with guest speaker Dex Nilsson, author of *Autobiography of a Book Man* - a humorous account of life filled with love for family, friends, and the ability to observe its absurdities; realizing that all of this was somehow guided by God.



### Attention

#### Young Adults/Twentysonethings!

We will meet this month on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm, at Local Taco (920 Bob Wallace Ave SW #310).

RSVP to Mother Bonnie by Jan 5<sup>th</sup>:

[bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org) (256.533.2455 x207)



[nativity young adults/twentysomethings](https://www.facebook.com/nativityyoungadults/twentysomethings)



## RENOWNED ICONOGRAPHER ELIAS KATSAROS GIVES ICON TO CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Shortly before Christmas, Huntsville iconographer Elias Katsaros who is well known across the United States for his beautiful Byzantine Iconography, made a gift of the icon of Christ Pantocrator to the Church of the Nativity in thanksgiving to God for our mission and ministry and commitment to worshipping “in the beauty of holiness.”



Katsaros and his wife Elaine presented the beautiful icon to Rector Andy Anderson along with Nativity parishioner and Huntsville artist Helen Vaughn, to whom Katsaros is grateful for her artistic endeavors and inspiration, especially in connecting art and spirituality. In 2014, Helen was co-chair of Nativity's Icons in Transformation art exhibit and Mr. Katsaros was a featured speaker. The Church of Nativity's recognition of iconography as a pathway to the holy and prayer resource is another reason the icon was given to Nativity.

Elias Katsaros was born of Greek parentage in Istanbul, Turkey and moved to Athens, Greece at the age of 19 where he attended the Art Institute of Athens. He spent five years studying art, including the basics of the Byzantine technique of writing (painting) icons. Moving to the

United States in 1969, he continued to study Byzantine Iconography in New York before moving to Huntsville where he established his studio with his wife Elaine. His work is found in churches across the United States. After 45 years of painting murals and filling churches with Byzantine Iconography, Elias retired in 2016. He now only offers his work as gifts, and Nativity is the first recipient of his artistic generosity.

The icon of Christ Pantocrator (or *Christos Pantokrator* in the Greek) is one of the most widely used religious images of Orthodox Christianity. In Medieval eastern church art and architecture, an **iconic** mosaic or fresco of Christ Pantocrator occupies the space in the central dome of the church, in the half-dome of the **apse** or on the nave vault. The image of Christ Pantocrator was one of the first **images of Christ** developed in the Early Christian Church and remains a central icon of the Eastern Orthodox Church. In the half-length image, Christ holds the New Testament in his left hand and makes the gesture of teaching or of blessing with his right. The most common translation of *Pantokrator* is "Almighty" or "All-powerful." In this understanding, *Pantokrator* is a compound word formed from the Greek words *πᾶς*, *pas* (**GEN** παντός *pantos*), i.e. "all" and *κράτος*, *kratos*, i.e. "strength," "might," "power." Another, more literal translation is "Judge of All," or "Ruler of All" or, less literally, "Sustainer of the World". In this understanding, Pantocrator is a compound word formed from the Greek for "all" and the verb meaning "To accomplish something" or "to sustain something" (*κρατεῖν*, *kratein*). In the *Christos Pantokrator* icon, the name of Christ is written on each side of the halo, as IC and XC. Christ's fingers are depicted in a pose that represents the letters IC, X and C, thereby making the **Christogram** ICXC (for "Jesus Christ"). The IC is composed of the Greek characters iota (I) and **lunate** sigma (C; instead of Σ, ς)—the first and last letters of 'Jesus' in Greek (Ἰησοῦς); in XC the letters are chi (X) and again the lunate sigma—the first and last letters of 'Christ' in Greek (Χριστός). In many cases, Christ has a cruciform halo inscribed with the letters Ο Ω Ν, i.e. ὁ ὢν "He Who Is".

The Pantocrator, largely an Eastern theological conception, is less common by that name in Western Christianity. In the West the equivalent image in art is known as *Christ in Majesty*, which developed differently. The typical Western *Christ in Majesty* is a full-length icon that usually shows Christ holding an orb symbolic of the world, again with hand held out in blessing. This image occupies the central apse window behind the altar at the Church of the Nativity. Nativity's first Icon was presented in 1998, *Our Lady of Kazan*, and will adorn the soon to be completed expanded **Lady Chapel** as a focal point for prayer. In 2008, a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century icon of the Nativity was acquired in Bethlehem and was blessed at the original Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem and is located in the Sanctuary as the primary icon bearing our parish church's founding and naming image. The Flower Guild and other donors presented Nativity with a modern interpretation of iconography by artist Ludmilla Pavlovski after our Icons in Transformation exhibit in 2014. Utilized as a pathway to prayer and spiritual devotion and theological understanding, icons are used in many Episcopal and Anglican Communion churches to draw people into God's holiness and the story of redemption they portray. Icons either tell a story or explain an important theological premise (usually both!) and therefore they are "written," not painted.

# Family Spaghetti Night

at Nativity



**Wednesday, January 25th - 5:30pm**  
**\$5 per person, \$20 family maximum**  
**All ages activity follows dinner**  
**Nursery is available (age 4 and under)**  
**but reservations are required.**

**Reservations: call the Church Office**  
**(256.533.2455) or [cgadomski@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:cgadomski@nativity-hsv.org)**

## STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

### Care for Creation thoughts and tips as we begin the new year

Creation provides us with the physical fabric of our lives; the natural environment gives us the stuff we use every day. It gives us the food for our tables, the material for our clothes and the materials to build our houses and churches. It is also a place where people have experienced a great closeness with God through its beauty and wonder. Creation is a gift from God and provides us with these things, the basics for our lives, yet it can so easily and so often be taken for granted.

Respect for human life means respecting all of God's creation. We must re-engage with our environment and take responsibility for it; live sustainably, live so that there are enough resources for everyone.

*"Creation is not a property, which we can rule over at will; or, even less, is the property of only a few: Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude."*

**Pope Francis**

### Tips to make life greener

We all want to care for the planet, but can't do everything at once. Here are a few tips to think about. Some can be done today, some this month, and some are not for you. Everyone can do something!

- **Lights Out** – turn the lights off when you leave the room. It is a myth that they use more energy to start back up. A fluorescent light bulb left on for 15 minutes uses 500 times more energy than it would if switched off when not needed. And remember to use low energy light bulbs!
- **Second Chance Plastic** - For the times your purchases end up in plastic bags, put the bags to good use by using them instead of bubble wrap for packing material. See if your local charity shops would like surplus bags, and get into the habit of taking a re-useable bag next time you go shopping.

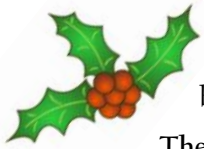
- **Are you a bookworm?** Instead of buying new books, start a book-sharing club with friends and colleagues or buy books from The Friends of the Library book store. Sharing books saves resources and money, and can improve your social life! Buying books at The Friends store supports the book funds for the public library!
- **Do you need it?** It is almost always better to use something that you already have than to buy something new, even if the new item is a 'green' product. Doing more with less is not the same as doing without! Ask yourself: Do I really need it now? Do I have it already? Is there something else I could use instead? Could I borrow it? How much can I save by not getting it? What would it really add to my life?
- **Get "unplugged"** One night a month, don't use any electricity for phones, video games, cooking, etc. Instead, play board games, eat raw food, play music with real instruments or simply talk to those with whom you share your home.
- **Happy hens.** Far too many laying hens live their lives in miserable conditions. You can make a difference by buying for your eggs from local producers at the Greene Street Market Store, or other sources of locally raised eggs or opting for grocery-store eggs labeled "humanely-raised & organic."
- **Time for a cuppa?** Use real cups/mugs at work or church or club. Reduce the billions of polystyrene cups that end up in landfill sites, or, here in Huntsville, going into the air your family breathes when the polystyrene is incinerated.

As you consider these and other ways to show your care for those around you and for God's creation, remember:

**Everyone can do something!**

*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*



## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS 2016

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 flowers on the pulpit are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Flo Stockton by the Flower Guild.

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

The Advent greens around the inside front doors are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Carla King by the Flower Guild.

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

The Ridley Hall door wreaths are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of W. C. Smith and David Culver by their families.

The wreaths on the Cloister doors are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of Bob Serio's ordination to the Diaconate by the Flower Guild.

The wreaths on the Bell Tower doors are offered to the Glory of God and in honor of our grandchildren Price, Byrne, and Zhi Crunkleton by Nancy & Richard Crunkleton.

The wreaths on the Chapel doors are offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jane Douthit by Jim Douthit & Claire Douthit.

The wreath inside over the church doors is dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dorothy Silsby Bixby and Jeanne Gunther Murray, grandmothers of Jill Murray.

The wreath in the vestibule is offered to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Needa Gibson, mother of Gail Brown, by the Flower Guild.

The flowers at the Chapel altar 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 wreath on the front gate is dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our parents James & Mary Kate Jordan and Dallas & Lorene Reynolds, by Louise & John Reynolds.

The wreath on the Ridley Hall gate is dedicated to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for John Buyse by the Flower Guild.

The wreaths above the Chapel altar are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Sara Landman Whitworth by Jerry Whitworth and Charles & Sherry Whitworth & family.

The flowers in the Bell Tower are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Denny Stewart, brother of Christi Falt, by her friends.

The flowers on the font are dedicated to the Glory of God and in celebration of the Birth of Christ by the Daughters of the King.

The flowered candelabra are given to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for our grandchildren: Parker & Maggie Sanders and Liam & Alice Petroff by Peggy & Bob Serio.

The flowers at the font in the Chapel are dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Harry Joshua Coons, Jr.

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

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

Our children & grandchildren by Hanns & Veneta Billmayer

My grandgirls Alana Roxanne and Cora Anne Putt by Janis Miskelly

Olivia, Finola and Eamonn O'Halloran by Jennie Coe

Our grandchildren Emma, Hill, and Jimmy by Kathy & George Hill

*(Continued on page 8)*



# CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS 2016 - CONTINUED

## in Celebration of:

My grandchildren Meredith, Ellie & Clay Walker by Shugie

## in Honor of:

Ashley Varner and Julie Quick by Nancy Davis

Our grandparents Dr. & Mrs. Peter Conway and Mary Gleason by Eleanor & John Gleason

Lovie & Granddaddy by Gavin, Hunter & Holland Ray.

## in loving memory of:

Mildred Lane by the Mission Guild

Jane Nall Douthit by Jim & Claire Douthit

Linda Darwin by Lee Coggins

Katherine Alan Vowell by Sara & Judd Vowell

Cornelia Lewis by John Lewis and Family

Flo Stockton by Minnie Lois Neal

Louis Durnya, Sr. and William Shelton and Joy Shelton Gass by Beth & Lou Durnya

Don Askins, husband & father by Marty Askins & Sons

Robert Sampson by his family

Clyde Pearson by Pam & Jim Rogers

Claude C. Boykin, Jr by Henrietta Boykin

Lynne Southall Swanson by the Fortner Family

Claire Smith Johnston by Pattie & John Cline

Martha Benzle by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

Mary Wilson by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

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

David Wilson by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

Tim Wilson by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

John Gilino by Curt Benzle & Wendy Wilson

Our grandfather Mr. John Francis Gleason by Eleanor & John Gleason

Jack Little by Sara Little



## Curious about Cursillo? Informational Dinner - January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Cursillo is an incredible movement that has provided many Episcopalians with a method to deepen their spirituality by focusing on piety, study, and action.

If you have been thinking about attending a Cursillo weekend (all of which are held at wonderful, wonderful Camp McDowell!), we are hosting a no-pressure, no-obligation informational dinner catered by Sally Stockton to answer any questions you may have.

We are excited about the upcoming year and hope you will consider enriching your spiritual life by becoming part of the exciting Cursillo community.



**DATE:** Sunday, January 8, 2017  
**TIME:** 5:30 pm  
**PLACE:** Kay and Don Wheeler's home  
506 Eustis Avenue  
**COST:** Nothing (same as the Cursillo weekend!)

**There is still time to RSVP!**

If you would like to attend our dinner, please contact David Collette [drc3898@knology.net](mailto:drc3898@knology.net) (256.527.2560)

## 2017 Vestry Officers

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

**Margaret Devenish** - Sr. Warden

**Robert Dunn** - Jr. Warden

**Donald Christian** - Treasurer

**Brandon Smith** - Finance committee chair

**Dottie Crawford** -

Clerk and Stewardship Ministries Liaison

**Linda Watts** -

Endowment Funds and Long Range Planning

## Easter Baptisms

The next baptism date at Nativity will be The Great Vigil of Easter, April 15th, 2017. Anyone wishing to have children baptized at Nativity on that date should contact Mother Bonnie [bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org) (256.533.2455 x207) before Monday, January 23rd



## Huntsville Assistance Program (HAP)

With the first Sunday of January being New Year's Day,  
HAP Sunday will be January 8<sup>th</sup>

### Items currently needed:

bar soap	any boxed meals
boxed potatoes	canned chicken
small hams	beans and rice
varied canned vegetables	

Thanks for all your support!



## Acolyte Schedule ~ January 2017

*We want to thank every single acolyte—the month of December was just glorious with all the Advent, Christmas Eve and Lessons and Carols services! We so appreciate your serving to make Advent and Christmas a meaningful time for everyone at Nativity.*

### January 8 - Baptisms

**8:45** A/M M Ward

C Cameron Pinson, Forrest Webber

T Elizabeth Rainey, Evelyn Warren

T Will Pinson, Charles Warren

S Britt Webber

AS Jed Rainey

**11:00** A/M C Sherrill

C Jack Benton Stockton, Ella Jane Duncan

T Mary Kate Brooks, Evans Bryant

T Phoebe Duncan, Betsy Bryant

S Ella Jane Duncan

AS Margaret Bryant

### January 15

**8:45** A/M N Putt

C Ellie Walker, Leighton Luther

T Katie Garth Kelly, Madelyn Alison

T Mary Ellis Alison, Clay Walker

S Huston Morring

AS Van Dodgen

**11:00** A/M D Nutt

C Bankston Creech, Luke Alison

T Sadie Anglin

T Mary Maddox Creech

S Bankston Creech

AS Luke Alison

### January 22

**8:45** A/M C Sherrill

C Sims Windham, Parker Sanders

T Alex Ahearn, Anna Katherine Ayres

T Katherine Hunter, Patrick Ahearn

S Emery Windham

AS Elizabeth Evans

**11:00** A/M M Ward

C Evan Ellison, Evan Ward

T Catherine Hendricks\*

T Carter Watson\*

S Molly Ward

AS Evan Ward

### January 29

**8:45** A/M N Putt

C Margaret Foster, Sidney Gunter

T Lucy Ellis, Cooper Gunter

T Sarah Weldon Hall, Thomas Aldag

S Sam Hartley

AS Park Ellis

**11:00** A/M D Nutt

C David DiFranco, Dylan Chenoweth

T Nannette Aboudonia

T Gertrude Aboudonia

S Riley Kamelchuk

AS Laura Kamelchuk

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

### **We pray for those whom prayers have been requested:**

Beezie Lindsey, June Denson-Mobbs, Ann Bishop, Elise Goodson, Sue Magee, Tom Booth, Debra Cote, Mary Goodwin, Phyllis Beck, Sara Welch, Fr. Dan McKee, Shirley Singleton, Genny Hoskins Beaver, Rick Barnett, Jim Martin, Kai Gustafson, Keith McRae, Diane Helser, Dick Gragg, Bess Smith, Leigh Wahl, Elsie Olsen

### **We pray for the birth of a child:**

Penelope Jane Brown, daughter of Abby & Hunter Brown, born November 12<sup>th</sup>

### **We pray for the departed:**

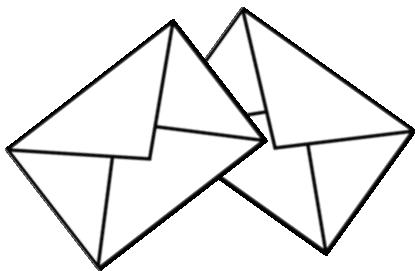
Jennifer Midboe Perreault, former parishioner  
Claire Johnston

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

Doug Faith, Afghanistan  
Kenneth Vandervoort, US Navy

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

1/6	Hardin Jones	1/7	Sarah Echols 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	1/14	Alec Bonner				



2017 offering envelopes (for those who requested them) are now available in Ridley Hall

The Church Office will be closing early on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm so the clergy and staff can enjoy their annual Epiphany party.

The Church Office will also be closed on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in honor of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

## **2017 ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

### **Please print all information**

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
- ☐ In loving memory of...
- ☐ In thanksgiving for...
- ☐ In celebration of...

Mail your form and check to:

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434 Locust Ave  
Huntsville, AL 35801



# WORSHIP SCHEDULE January 2017, published 12/29/16

## SUNDAY, January 1, 2017, the Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Anderson		Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett
10:00 am	Anderson		Gary Rasponi, Robert Dunn, Kaaren Dunn, Lee Hicklen	Fred Beck, Camille Sommer, Mary Johnson, Elaine Hamner, Melissa Kirkindall	Sally Ann Culver

## WEDNESDAY, January 4, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	Anderson		Lea Ann Barnett

## THURSDAY, January 5, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
6:00 pm	McCrickard		Don Lambert

## SUNDAY, January 8, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany; The Baptism of Our Lord

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	McCrickard		Sue Johnson	Sue Johnson	Sue Johnson
8:45 am	Anderson	McCrickard	Charlie Warren, Pat Sampson	Lane Mickle	Clay Sherrill
11:00 am	McCown	McCrickard	Holland-Shuey, Rich Spera	Pamela Briggs, Ted Briggs	Ed Vaughn

## WEDNESDAY, January 11, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	McCown		Gary Rasponi

## THURSDAY, January 12, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
6:00 pm	Anderson		Charles Morley

## SUNDAY, January 15, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Anderson		Lea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett
8:45 am	McCown	Anderson	Kaaren Dunn, Robert Dunn	Jim Douthit	Shirley Hale
11:00 am	McCrickard	Anderson	Tome Devenish, Walter Thames	Debbie Collette, David Collette	Buddy Moon

## WEDNESDAY, January 18, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	McCrickard		Cheryl Watts

## THURSDAY, January 19, HE

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

## SUNDAY, January 22, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM (Anderson – out)	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	McCown		John Hendricks	John Hendricks	John Hendricks
8:45 am	Holland-Shuey	McCown	Laura Pierce, Lane Mickle	Jennifer Dill	Sarah Watts
11:00 am	McCrickard	McCown	Sally Ann Culver, Hanns Billmeyer, Deborah Baker	Ed Vaughn, Robbie Shafer	Virginia Kobler

## WEDNESDAY, January 25, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	Holland-Shuey		Mary Hendricks

## THURSDAY, January 26, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
6:00 pm	Anderson		Laura Pierce

## SUNDAY, January 29, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Anderson		Don Lambert	Don Lambert	Don Lambert
8:45 am	McCrickard	Anderson	Mike Ward, Sarah Watts	Lee Hicklen	Gary Rasponi
11:00 am	McCown	Anderson	Peter Cobun, Joan East	Marcia Cobun, Rhonwyn Watson	Jim Douthit

## WEDNESDAY, February 1, HE

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	Anderson		Sarah Watts

### USHERS

8:45	Steve Creech, Lewie Bates, Lynn Bates, Jennie Coe, Sparks Ford, Russ McDonald, Robert Rodgers
11:00	Gail Rogers, Mike Brown, Sandy Brown, Margaret Devenish, Tom Devenish, Tip Hoover, Chris Hulser

### ALTAR GUILD

31	Emily Moody, Rebecca Brothers, Judy Heacock, Mary Johnson, Judy Vann
7	Sue Johnson, Gail Brown, Sarah James, Alice Lanier, Connie Stephenson
14	Jewell Reynolds, Lea Ann Barnett, Nancy Colin, Wanda Cobb, Beth Pugh
21	Linda Watts, Judy Heacock, Mary Johnson, Emily Moody, Sophia Rowe
28	Debbie Joyner, Caffey Litkenhous, Sara Little, rose Anne Shearer, Judy Vann

## CLERGY ON CALL SCHEDULE

Dec. 29 – January 1	January 2 – 8	January 9 – 15	January 16 – 22	January 23 – 29	Jan 30 – Feb 5
Anderson	McCrickard	McCown	Anderson	McCrickard	McCown

## 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 17<sup>th</sup>**

### CLERGY & STAFF

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

**The Rev. Rusty McCown**  
Associate

**The Rev. Bonnie McCrickard**  
Associate

**The Rev. Robert A. Serio, M.D.**  
Deacon

**Christian Crocker**  
Choirmaster and Organist

**Lane Tutt**  
Adult Christian Formation

**Sarah Watts**  
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

**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 Gadowski**  
Worship & Ministry Assistant

**Amy Baxter**  
Assistant to the Rector

**Glenn Sommer**  
Communications

**Prentice White**  
Verger/Wedding Coordinator

### WARDENS' COUNCIL

**Margaret Devenish** - Sr. Warden

**Robert Dunn** - Jr. Warden

**Donald Christian** - Treasurer

**Brandon Smith** - Finance chair

**Dottie Crawford** -  
Clerk and Stewardship Ministries

**Linda Watts** - 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](http://nativity-hsv.org)

### Upcoming Events at a Glance

Nativity's full online calendar: [tiny.cc/nathsvCalendar](http://tiny.cc/nathsvCalendar)

#### January

8	<b>HAP SUNDAY</b> Nativity 101 begins & Church School resumes	10:00am
9	Young Adults gathering (off-site)	5:30pm
10	Simple Eucharist (Bibb Chapel) Men's Ministry Breakfast w/guest speaker (Ridley Hall)	6:30am 7:00am
13	Friends of Music Presents ~ Kenneth Miller, Organ	7:30pm
16	<b>Martin Luther King Jr Holiday</b> (Church Office closed)	
24	Centering Prayer with Sister Mary (Ridley Hall) -- Details coming soon --	5:30pm
25	**Nativity Family Spaghetti Dinner (Ridley Hall)	5:30pm
29	Nativity Newcomers Dinner (off-site)	

#### February

3	Friends of Music Presents ~ Echoing Air	7:30pm
** Nursery available by request		

**January 4, 2017**