

THE STEEPLE

The Church of the Nativity

December 6, 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

Advent is the beginning of the new church year. Derived from the Latin word *adventus*—coming—Advent is the season to prepare for Christ's coming again in power and great glory. It is also a time to prepare for Christ to be born anew in our lives. This image is comforting as we imagine Jesus cradled in our heart, bringing peace of mind and solace for the soul. Warily we cry, "Come, Lord Jesus!"



C.S. Lewis, in *Mere Christianity*, gives us another image of God coming to dwell within us. "Imagine yourself as a living house. God comes to rebuild that house.... He starts knocking the house about in a way that hurts abominably and does not seem to make sense. What on earth is He up to? The explanation is that He is building quite a different house from the one you thought of—throwing out a new wing here, putting on an extra floor there, running up towers, making courtyards. You thought you were going to be made into a decent little cottage: but He is building a palace. He intends to come and live in it Himself."

The Church of the Nativity is another living house where God obviously dwells. In the days ahead, God will be guiding us through the process of remodeling in order to prepare for a new rector. None of what makes Nativity special will be discarded. Strengths of the past will be reinforced to provide a solid foundation upon which the future will be built. Walls will be inspected to ensure there are no barriers to honest

conversation and collective discernment. Bright lights of mutual respect will illuminate every corner. And in ways yet to be revealed, God will put down extra floors of understanding, run up towers of enlightenment, and make courtyards bloom with inspiration and anticipation.

In the midst of it all let us sing "Come thou long expected Jesus." Let us courageously pray, "Let the remodeling begin!"
Virginia+



Pictured from left: Bonnie McCrickard, Dori Nutt, David DiFranco, Julie DiFranco and Virginia Monroe

Special Senior Cross Presentation

Sunday, December 3rd during the 11:00am service David DiFranco, one of our senior Acolytes was presented with his Senior Acolyte Cross. David is graduating early (December) from Madison County High School and will be leaving to join the Army. In January, he will start basic training at Fort Jackson, SC followed by 4 months Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sam Houston where he will train to become a Combat Medic. He then plans to complete Airborne and Ranger Assessment School at Fort Benning in GA. We're very proud of David, and thankful for his many years of faithful Acolyte service!

The Holy Season of Advent & Christmastide

Sunday, December 24

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Bibb Chapel

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day

10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Bibb Chapel

Sunday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

*4:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II &

Children's Christmas Pageant

7:30pm Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist

10:30pm Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 31

7:45 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Bibb Chapel

10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

*indicates nursery available during service

Children's Christmas Pageant 4.00 pm Christmas Eve Service



For all children age 3 through 6th grade.

Dec. 17, 3:00 pm, Ridley Hall

Costume fitting for 1st grade—4th grade.

To help Christmas Eve be a little less crazy, 1st—4th graders are invited to get a costume assignment on the 17th. If you can't make this day, children can get costumes on Christmas Eve at 3:15 pm.

Dec. 24, 3:15 pm, Ridley Hall

Put on costumes and receive instructions prior to 4.00 service.

Children age 3 through 3rd grade sit with their families until their part in the pageant.

Helping hands needed at both events. Please contact Mary Coe, mcoe@nativity-hsv.org. Thank you!

PLEASE NOTE THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

MONDAY, JANUARY 1



YAMS

(Young Adults Married & Single)

Monday, December 11

5:30 in the LOFT (upstairs Joffrion Hall)

Bring a side dish, appetizer, or dessert, main dish will be provided. Bring a non-food donation for a local homeless ministry (hotel-sized soap or shampoo, batteries, socks, small flashlights, diapers, hand sanitizer, etc.). Wear festive holiday attire if you wish!

RSVP by December 9 by email to bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org.



Our monthly Men's Breakfast
is next Tuesday!

Join us **Tuesday, December 12** at 7:00am in Ridley Hall for a delicious breakfast.

Presentation by

The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe

Hope to see you there!

A Simple Eucharist is offered
in Bibb Chapel at 6:30am.

SUNDAY MORNING ADVENT SERIES

ALL ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES WILL COME TOGETHER IN RIDLEY HALL
DURING THE 10:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR FOR AN ADVENT REFLECTION
PRESENTED BY SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS

Christmas cannot be
bought, only found-you
cannot light Christmas it
lights you!

-Ann Voskamp

DECEMBER 10 REBECCA EPPS

Rebecca is a cradle Episcopalian and preacher's kid who lives in Guntersville with her husband Jay and their 2 dogs. She works as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in Fort Payne and enjoys the joys and challenges of helping others.

DECEMBER 17 HARVEY COTTEN

Harvey is a Garden Writer / Designer and Consultant - three years ago he retired from the Huntsville Botanical Garden, most recently as Vice President and Chief Horticulturist. He is a native Huntsvillian and life long member of Nativity.



learn, pray, play

Upcoming dates:

December 10

St. Nicholas Day and Sunday School Pajama Party

8:45 visit from St. Nicholas during children's chapel. **10:00** Pajama party during Sunday school with treats & fun activities.

December 17 3:00pm

Christmas pageant costume fitting for 1st -4th graders.

December 24 4:00

Children's Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist Service. All children age 3 through 6th grade are invited to be in the pageant. Plan to come to Ridley Hall at 3:15 for costumes and instructions. Children 3rd grade and younger sit with their parents until their time to perform. After the pageant, parents meet their children in Ridley to take off costumes then return to church.

December 24 & 31 No Sunday school or children's chapel.

January 7 Regular schedule resumes. First meeting of First grade Eucharist instruction class.

First Grade Eucharist Instruction Class. During Sunday school hour Jan 7 through Feb 4. All 1st graders are invited to bring a parent and participate in a Sunday morning Eucharist Instruction Class led by Madeline Mullins. The class will culminate with special recognition of participants at Children and Youth Sunday, 8.45 service on February 11th. This class is offered to our first graders each year as a way to introduce them to our liturgy and tradition in a fun, kid friendly environment. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me". ~Matthew 19:14

Children's Formation Lego Drive

Got Legos? Have a box of abandoned Legos taking up precious closet space? Children's formation would love to have them! During Lent, our children's Wednesday night study will be Building Faith Brick by Brick, a program centered around using Legos to explore faith and spirituality. If you have Legos to pass on, please contact mcoe@nativity-hsv.org. Thank you!



St Nicholas Day & Sunday School Pajama Party



December 10

Children and fun adults are invited to wear their pj's to church and Sunday school
Sock and book gift collection for Oscar Mason After School Program. See website to sign up.

8.45 Service Children's Chapel

Visit from St Nicholas. Children bring gifts forward as they leave for chapel.

10.00 Children's Sunday School

Pajama Party with treats and special activities

Questions, mcoe@nativity-hsv.org

[CLICK HERE](#) TO SIGN UP FOR BOOK & GIFT COLLECTION

Club 56 Happenings

Skating in the park! Club 56 will join EYC for ice skating in the park Sunday, December 17th. Meet in the Greene Street Parking lot at 1:45. We will return to the church between 3 and 3:15 for hot cocoa and a quick movie. Christmas Pageant rehearsal is at 4:00 for all 5th and 6th graders. Cost for skating is \$10 and a youth activity release form must be completed
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1O9cQpIRhTsOStXuHJn6xcjDx2NBQ9Mus/view?usp=sharing>.

Contact Amy Brooks abrooks@nativity-hsv.org to save your spot and let me know if you can chaperone!

Introducing JYC (Junior Youth Community)

Calling all 5th and 6th graders!! We will start meeting every Sunday night beginning with our kickoff on January 7th. All 5th-12th graders and their parents are invited to join us for appetizers & beach games as we come together to kick off a new year & new programming. We'll have time to eat some good food and play some fun games. We'll also split up into 3 separate groups to discuss programming & schedules, 5th & 6th graders, 7th-12th graders, and the Confirmation Class. RSVP to Amy Brooks abrooks@nativity-hsv.org by January 3rd.



JYC & EYC Kickoff 2018 All 5th-12th graders and their parents are invited to join us for appetizers & beach games as we come together to kick off a new year & new programming. We'll have time to eat some good food and play some fun games. We'll also split up into 3 separate groups to discuss programming & schedules for 5th & 6th graders, 7th-12th graders, and the Confirmation Class. RSVP to Sarah Watts by Jan 3rd: swatts@nativity-hsv.org.



High School EYC Dinners Sunday nights from 7pm-8pm

High School youth have started to meet Sunday evenings from 7:00pm-8:00pm for dinner. During dinners we'll have a devotional and spend some time planning events for high school youth at Nativity and their friends. Please read the weekly email for each week's dinner location or text Sarah Watts (256-783-1805).



Youth Chrismons & Ice Skating

December 17th, 12:30am-3:00pm

We'll meet following the 11am service, eat lunch, and decorate the Christmas tree. Then we'll head off to Ice Skate in the Park and return to the church for pickup or pageant rehearsal by 3:00pm.

Register by Dec 7 @ <https://tinyurl.com/Chrismons-IceSkating2017>

Small Group Schedule Here is the schedule of the small groups for the rest of the year and into 2018. Please note, EVERYONE is welcome at any of the following groups regardless of whether you are signed up or not - it is helpful if you would let us know if you are planning to attend so we have enough supplies prepared! Hope to see you all there!

Coffee with Christ December 9 & 16 9:00am - 10:00am @ Starbucks on Governors Drive

Hiking December 10 1:00pm-3:00pm @ the end of 510 Cleermont Dr

Jammin' with Jesus January 14, 21, 28 & February 4 3:30pm - 5:00pm @ The LOFT

Children & Youth Sunday Planning Group January 7, 14, 21, 28 & February 4 12:30pm Lunch (location TBD)



PRAYER REQUESTS

We pray for those whom prayers have been requested:

Isabelle Towry, Joel Nitz, Leslie Crowson, Shelley Campbell Coxwell, Jody Mowrer, Suzy Naumann, Eva Nave, Jane Booth, Sandra Clements, Norlene Wolford, Prentice White, JoAnn Moorman, Tommie Taylor, Louise Weathers, Chris Duncan, Gerry Nitz, Ted Bledsoe, Bill Martin, Kevin Wahl, Cecelia Duncan, Bill Nettles, Leigh Wahl, Heidi Foreman, Tom Hodge, Georgia Hendricks, Anne Boles, David Phillips, Rose Sidick, Robert McClain, Joan Bennett, Tom Booth, Elsie Olsen

We pray for the departed:

Wannie Evans, Gene Sullivan, Betty Giardini, Frank Vann, John Buford & Sherri Ellis

We pray for those deployed/serving with the Military:

Kenneth Vandervoort	US Navy, Middle East
Denver Colin	Afghanistan

We give thanks for birthdays of our children:

12/8 Margaret Foster	12/9 Jacks McClung	12/10 Patrick Reid	12/10 Vivian Brouse
12/12 Will Knight	12/14 Hope Howell	12/14 Ireland Braudaway	
12/17 Maggie Sanders	12/18 Chandler Mason	12/18 Alton Hudson	
12/18 Hunter Whitworth	12/20 George McCurry	12/20 Jewell West	

Prayers of the People Each time we gather for worship we recite The Prayers of the People. These prayers are a most important aspect of our life together. Margaret Gunter notes in The Practice of Prayer, "They draw us together and remind us that we are knit together in a community much larger than our families or our parish." Intercessory prayer moves us beyond ourselves and assures us that we are connected, that we are not isolated or alone. Gunter says, "Pushed back to its Latin roots, intercedere, the word simply means to 'to stand between' or 'to stand in the midst'. When we "stand between" God and a child, spouse, friend, or the friend of a friend, we connect at the same time to God and the person we name before God.

In order to be more aware of those who are still recovering and those who have been restored to health, we will leave a name on the spoken prayers for a month. At the end of that time, if you wish to have the name remain on the list for an additional month, please call the office.

Available date for Baptism

The next opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Baptism will be Sunday, January 7, The First Sunday after the Epiphany. Please call Rev. Bonnie McCrickard, 256-533-2455 ext. 222 as soon as possible if you have a child (or adult) you would like to be baptized at that time.

Nativity Membership Updates

Transfers In:

The Fitzgerald Family

Charles, Lauren, Charles Jr. and Oliver

The Fitzgerald Family

Joe, Ashley, James, Alice and Rhett

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7

Transfers Out:

Tippy Anderson

Sally Anderson

Nina Lucas Brooks

Jamie, Heather, Jeremiah and Graham Duncan

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you" Numbers 6:24-25

Social Media— Don't forget to connect with us on social media! You can find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/nativityhsv/> on Instagram nativityhsv and on Twitter @nativityhsv, and remember to use #wearenativityhsv when sharing photos!

The Stewardship Committee asked several Nativity parishoners to share their stewardship journey, and we want to share those reflections with you. Every individuals journey to generosity is different, and we are grateful for everyone who gives, of their time, talent and money, to help make Church of the Nativity a wonderful place to grow together in Christ's love.



Stewardship means taking care of what is entrusted to us. Not just with our money, but through time and prayers. For two years now, my husband and I have been giving regularly to The Church of the Nativity. This past year we added giving of our time: we serve on Stewardship Committee and I am also on the Altar Guild. Through these acts of stewardship, I feel a deep connection to the church. - **Elizabeth Pate**

My reflection on Stewardship. OK. Here's the deal. I am OBLIGED to pledge to The Church of the Nativity. It's my mother's fault. She drummed it into my head: Pay your way. Pay your way. Don't mooch.

You use it, you pay your way.

Jerry Ellis and I moved to Huntsville in 1965. Nativity has been saddled with us ever since. I owe Nativity.

I don't think Jesus was very much concerned with money. And I'm not talking about giving back to God what is God's. I'm talking about paying my way. For lights and air conditioning, for John and Marlin and Amy and Beverly, for the organ and the beautiful wood floors and the stained glass windows forever etched into my soul, for the courtyard and Ridley Hall, for the silver and the linen, for copies of "Forward Day by Day," and particularly for me, the music. I owe Nativity. I don't give much. But I pledge and I honor the pledge. I am obliged, and I am glad. -**Mickey Ellis**

How I Decide What My Pledge Will Be? I will tell you the question I ask myself each year as I decide what my annual pledge will be. I first heard these words from Bishop Stough many years ago. The question I ask, is how much of God's money am I going to keep? I do believe what we have is a result of God's generosity. Granted we work hard for what we have but He has given us the ability to earn.

I am a retired teacher living on a fixed income but it was through God's grace that I was able to have the opportunity to work in education for 24 years. I am not tithing at this time but I am increasing my pledge every year as I work toward that goal.

I believe that together at Nativity we are providing a nurturing place for all of us with special emphasis on our youth who are our future. I also believe our outreach programs are answering God's command to love our neighbors as ourselves.

So may I suggest you ask yourself as you decide on your pledge, how much of God's money am I going to keep? - **Dot Milirons**

If you have already returned your pledge card, thank you! If not, please respond to God's generosity in your life by generously pledging to support God's work through Nativity. You may return pledge cards through the mail, in the offering plate, or pledge online. Please contact Beverly Franklin at the Church office for more information.

What are You Reading? *A Man Called Ove*

By : **Fredrik Backman**

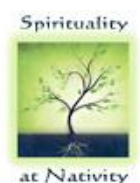
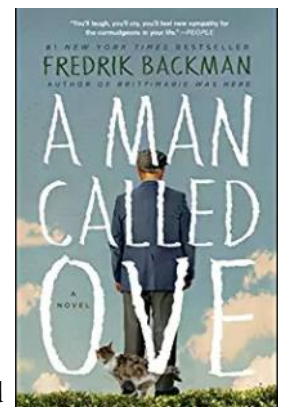
Contributed by: **Camille Sommer**

Nature rules Planet Earth. Drive around Huntsville and you will see spaces once occupied by restaurants or shopping centers, long demolished, taken over by grass, weeds, and wildflowers. Nature fills in the vacancy left by change. And nature, human nature, intervenes to fill the voids once inhabited and enriched by other people.

Take the primary character in the novel "A Man Called Ove" by Frederik Backman. Ove is a stereotypical grumpy old man. He has reached a point in life where he feels obsolete. Challenged with living in a world that no longer makes sense, with people who defy the rules of "The Way Things Should Be Done," Ove questions why he should continue to live at all. His nosy neighbors irritate him, but one by one, their presences fill the holes left vacant by loss and disappointment. Ove does not change too much, but he helps transform and support the lives of those around him.

Just when we might wonder, "Do I really matter?" or "How do we go on when the world changes around us and life gives us lemons along the way?", reading Ove's story reminds us that yes, we do matter. Each of us is that one piece of the puzzle that would leave the picture incomplete. We stand stronger as a community.

Please let us know what you are reading by contacting: Mary Johnson maryjohnson2@knology.net or Laura Malone lpmalonepi@gmail.com 'What are you Reading?' is a book review column brought to you by Nativity's Spiritual Development Committee.



Men's Wednesday Night

Bible Study With Charles Morley

We will gather on January 10, 17, 24, 31 at 6:00pm, in Joffrion Hall Library to

consider certain non-controversial issues like "Did the Resurrection Really Happen and Does it Matter?" and "Does Evil Exist As a Tangible Power in the World?" (hint: Jesus certainly thought so.) We'll consult Rob Bell, C.S. Lewis, John Ortberg, J. B. Phillips, Anne Lamont, Matthew, Mark, Luke and of course, Rev. Virginia Monroe.

Jesus promised that "...where two or three come together in my name, there I am with them." Mat 18:20. My only promise is that the class will not run longer than 50 minutes. Oh, and for the Episcopalians, there will be NO collection taken up! So mark your calendars and open your minds and bring a friend!!! Shalom, Charles



FRIENDS OF MUSIC

January 26, 2018 7:00pm

Michael Weinberg, baritone and
Christian Crocker, tenor
Elizabeth LaJeunesse, piano

February 11, 2018 5:00pm

Choral Evensong for the Last
Sunday after the Epiphany

March 16, 2018 7:00pm

Patrick Scott, organ

May 20, 2018 5:00pm

Nativity Choir Spring Concert

June 3, 2018 5:00pm

Choral Evensong

Nativity Women's Retreat

With The Rev'd Dr. Virginia Monroe

February 23-24, 2018

St. Mary's Sewanee, Tennessee

Registration DEADLINE for the retreat is JANUARY 12th

Double room \$100, single room \$120

6 rooms with private bath available in the New Building—single \$160,
double \$150

If you are staying in a private home the price is \$65.00.

We are happy to say we have received lots of reservations but, we have room for more!! So get a roommate and sign up! With the holidays coming, the deadline for JANUARY 12th will be here before you know it!! Please call Lane Tutt 256-653-7200 with any questions.

Register online at <https://www.shelbygiving.com/f/f2.asp?formid=b7eb38cb-4f1f-4e33-9fa8-5b40a97a4bc5>

Or email ltutt@nativity-hsv.org * Checks payable to The Church of Nativity (credit card payment available with online registration).

Adult Formation Class

Nativity 101

Sundays, January 7, 14, 21, 28

Ridley Hall, 10:00am-10:50am

Nativity 101 is for anyone new to Nativity or anyone interested in a refresher course about the Episcopal Church and the Church of the Nativity.

Topics include the history of the Episcopal Church as well as Nativity's history. We will discuss core

Episcopalian beliefs. We will explore the Book of Common Prayer. We will explain all aspects of the church services including music. We will welcome your comments and questions! Join us!

For questions contact Lane Tutt,

ltutt@nativity-hsv.org.



Art and Literature Sunday School Class

Interpreting Genesis

January 7, 14, 21, 28 February 4 & 11

Join Jeannie Robison, Walter Thames, and Lynne Vallely as they use thought-provoking texts and works of art to help illuminate the stories in Genesis and their meanings. Questions, ltutt@nativity-hsv.org

Stewardship of Creation

Thoughts on Buying Local by Marilyn Evans

Here are some short excerpts from two sites that I think give very solid reasons - economic, social and health, for supporting any local business:

- 🌱 Locally grown food is full of flavor. When grown locally, the crops are picked at their peak of ripeness versus being harvested early in order to be shipped and distributed to your local retail store. Many times produce at local markets has been picked within 24 hours of your purchase.
- 🌱 Eating local food is eating seasonally. Even though we wish strawberries were grown year round, the best time to eat them is when they can be purchased directly from a local grower. They are full of flavor and taste better than the ones available in the winter that have traveled thousands of miles and picked before they were ripe.
- 🌱 Local food has more nutrients. Local food has a shorter time between harvest and your table, and it is less likely that the nutrient value has decreased. Food imported from far-away states and countries is often older, has traveled and sits in distribution centers before it gets to your store.
- 🌱 Local food supports the local economy. The money that is spent with local farmers and growers all stays close to home and is reinvested with businesses and services in your community.
- 🌱 Local food benefits the environment. By purchasing locally grown foods you help maintain farmland and green and/or open space in your community.
- 🌱 Local foods promote a safer food supply. The more steps there are between you and your food's source the more chances there are for contamination. Food grown in distant locations has the potential for food safety issues at harvesting, washing, shipping and distribution.
- 🌱 Local growers can tell you how the food was grown. You can ask what practices they use to raise and harvest the crops. When you know where your food comes from and who grew it, you know a lot more about that food.

At the most basic level, when you buy local more money stays in the community. The New Economics Foundation, an independent economic think tank based in London, compared what happens when people buy produce at a supermarket vs. a local farmer's market or community supported agriculture (CSA) program and found that twice the money stayed in the community when folks bought locally. "That means those purchases are twice as efficient in terms of keeping the local economy alive," says author and NEF researcher David Boyle. Indeed, says Boyle, many local economies are languishing not because too little cash comes in, but as a result of what happens to that money. "Money is like blood. It needs to keep moving around to keep the economy going," he says, noting that when money is spent elsewhere—at big supermarkets, non-locally owned utilities and other services such as on-line retailers—"it flows out, like a wound." By shopping at the corner store (or local Farmers market) instead of the big box, consumers keep their communities from becoming what the NEF calls "ghost towns" (areas devoid of neighborhood shops and services) or "clone towns", where Main Street now looks like every other Main Street with the same fast-food and retail chains.

To add another, more personal, reason is that buying local by supporting the Greene Street Market does all of the above as well as supporting the outreach ministries of our parish and that makes my community better and makes me happy.

http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/7_benefits_of_eating_local_foods

Holiday Farmers Market

Saturday, December 9
10 am - 2 pm

Church of the Nativity, Downtown Huntsville

LOCALLY GROWN PRODUCE FARM FRESH FOODS FRESH BAKED GOODS LOCAL ARTISANS

www.greenestreetmarket.com



2018 Altar Flower Dedications

Your Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Date desired: _____

Name(s) for dedication: _____

Please choose one: ☐ in loving memory of... ☐ in thanksgiving for... ☐ in celebration of... ☐ in honor of...

Will you share this dedication? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Can we list your name in the bulletin? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Dedications are \$40 each or \$20 if shared.

Make check payable to : *Nativity Flower Guild* and mail your check along with this form to:

Andrea Vandervoort- 434 Locust Ave. Huntsville, AL 35801

Questions? Call Andrea: 256-539-2673



WORSHIP SCHEDULE December, 2017- published 11/30/17 - AEK

SUNDAY, December 3rd 1st Sunday of Advent

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	McCrickard / Monroe		Lea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett
8:45 am	Holland -Shuey	Monroe	Charles Warren, Lane Mickle, Lewie Bates	Jennifer Dill	Joan East
11:00 am	McCrickard	Monroe	Peter Cobun, Laura Pierce, Hanns Billmayer	_____, Rhonwyn Watson	Martha Joffrion

WEDNESDAY, December 6th

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	McCrickard		Cheryl Watts

THURSDAY, December 7th

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

SUNDAY, December 10th 2nd Sunday of Advent

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	McCrickard		Don Lambert	Don Lambert	Don Lambert
8:45 am	Holland-Shuey	McCrickard	Joan East, Mike Ward, Allen Daniels	Joe East	Shirley Hale
11:00 am	Foreman	McCrickard	Laura Pierce, Hanns Billmayer, Lee Hicklen	Buddy & Stacy Moon	Ronnie Rogers

WEDNESDAY, December 13th

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	Holland-Shuey		Mary Hendricks

THURSDAY, December 14th

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
6:00 pm	Monroe / Serio		Charles Morley

SUNDAY, December 17, 3rd Sunday of Advent

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Holland-Shuey / Serio		John Hendricks	John Hendricks	John Hendricks
8:45 am	Monroe	Serio	Lewie Bates, Kaaren Dunn, Robert Dunn	Fred Beck	Clay Sherrill
11:00 am	McCrickard	Serio	Sally Ann Culver, Pat Sampson, Walter Thames	Mike & Sandy Brown	Adalene Bledsoe

WEDNESDAY, December 20th

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	Holland-Shuey		Joan East

THURSDAY, December 21st

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

SUNDAY, December 24 – Christmas Eve

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector
9:00 am	Monroe	McCrickard	Kaaren Dunn, Robert Dunn, Sarah Watts	Elaine Hamner, Lynn Lewis
4:00 pm	Monroe	Monroe	Allen Daniels, Mike Ward, Ralph Shuey, Lee Hicklen	The Children
7:30 pm	Holland-Shuey	Monroe	Joan East, Pat Sampson	Joe East, Mike Innes
10:30 pm	McCrickard	Monroe	Sally Ann Culver, Virginia Kobler, Peter Cobun, Sue Johnson, Hanns Billmayer	Marcia Cobun, Steve Johnson

MONDAY, December 25, Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
10:00 am	McCrickard		John Hendricks	Mary Hendricks	Mary Hendricks

WEDNESDAY, December 27th

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
12 noon	Monroe		Joan East

THURSDAY, December 28th

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM
6:00 pm	Monroe		Don Lambert

SUNDAY, December 31st, The First Sunday after Christmas Day

Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Monroe		Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett
10:00 am	Monroe		Lane Mickle, Allen Daniels, Laura Pierce	Ronnie Rogers, Mike Ward	Joan East

USHERS

8:45am	Charlie Warren, Steuart Evans, Jr., Bland Warren, Kevin Webber, Don Wheeler
11:00am	Buddy Moon, Pamela Briggs, Ted Briggs, Kylan Laxson, Terry Clevenger

ALTAR GUILD

3 rd	Nancy Colin, Lea Ann Barnett, Caffey Litkenhous, Sara Little, Elizabeth Pate
10 th	Debbie Joyner, Sarah James, Beth Pugh, Sophia Rowe, Connie Stephenson
17 th	Judy Heacock, Wanda Cobb, Emily Moody, Jewell Reynolds, Linda Watts, Jill Chadwick
24 th	Lea Ann Barnett, Rebecca Brothers, Nancy Colin, Kaaren Dunn, Mary Johnson, Sue Johnson, Sara Little, Peggy Serio, Judy Vann
31 st	Alice Lanier, Sarah James, Caffey Litkenhous, Beth Pugh, Sophia Rowe

CLERGY ON CALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 27 th - Dec. 3 rd	Dec. 4 th - 10 th	Dec. 11 th - 17 th	Dec. 18 th - 24 th	Dec. 25 th - Jan. 1 st
Serio	McCrickard	Holland-Shuey	Serio	Monroe

Acolyte Schedule

December 2017

This month has a few folks scheduled twice, what with all the extra services on Christmas Eve, plus our annual Lessons and Carols service at 5 pm on the 3rd. If you are not able to serve as scheduled, please arrange a substitute and let us know who will be filling in. Our Advent and Christmas seasons are always so special at Nativity, and we thank all of you who make them that way!

Dec 3

8:45 A/M D Nutt

C Patrick Ahearn, Parker Sanders

T Maggie Sanders, Thea Sommers

T Alton Hudson, Warren Towry

S Joshua Huskey

AS Alex Ahearn

11:00 A/M D Nutt

C JB Stockton, Dylan Chenoweth

T Laura Kamelchuk

T Phoebe Duncan

S Ella Jane Duncan

AS Riley Kamelchuk

December 3 Lessons and Carols 5 pm **arrive by 4:45 for instruction A/M Nutt

C Sam Hartley T Caroline Hornsby T SC Hornsby Thurifer T Lambert

Dec 10

8:45 A/M N Putt

C Huston Moring, Ireland Braudaway

T Sadie Anglin, David Young

T Vivian Hinton, Alana Boyce

S Cameron Pinson

AS Will Pinson

11:00 A/M C Sherrill

C Margaret Bryant

T Carter Watson

T Evans Bryant

S Betsy Bryant

AS Catherine Hendricks

Dec 17

8:45 A/M N Putt

C Margaret Foster, SW Hall

T Ellie Webber, AK Ayers

T Anna Mullins

S Thomas Aldag

AS Britt Webber

11:00 A/M C Sherrill

C Sims Windham

T Madelyn Alison

T Mary Ellis Alison

S Emery Windham

AS Luke Alison

Dec 24 **Arrive at least 25 min before the service for instruction!!!

4:00 A/M Nutt, Putt

C Ellie Walker, Sam Hartley

T RJ Ragland, Anna Mullins

T Clara Keener, Alana Boyce

S Alice Malone

AS Clay Walker

Banners: P Ahearn, O O'Halloran,

Alex Ahearn

7:30 A/M M Ward

C Van Dodgen, Bankston Creech

T Carter Watson, Elizabeth Rainey

T Vivian Hinton, EJ Duncan

S Mary Maddox Creech

AS Ella Jane Duncan

Banners: Phoebe Duncan, Elizabeth Evans

MM Creech

10:30 A/M Nutt, Christopher Ellis

C Shannon Gunter, David DiFranco

T Lucy Ellis

T Park Ellis (carry torch in processions)

S Park Ellis

AS Cooper Gunter

Banners: Katherine Hunter, Dylan Chenoweth

Thurifer: Jack Benton Stockton

Dec 31 10:00 AM NOTE DIFFERENT SERVICE TIME! A/M M Ward

C Molly Ward

T Clara Keener

T Evan Ward

S Evelyn Warren

AS Charles Warren

THE STEEPLE is published the two times each month. To submit events or articles, bring them to the church office or email:

vhinton@nativity-hsv.org

The deadline for the next issue is **12:00pm, Monday, December 18**

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe

Interim Rector

The Rev. Bonnie McCrickard

Associate

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

Deacon

The Rev. Dr. Basye Holland-Shuey

Spiritual Direction

The Rev. Van Foreman

Assisting Priest

Christian Crocker

Choirmaster and Organist

Lane Tutt

Adult Christian Formation

Sarah Watts

Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Mary Coe

Children's Formation

Amy Brooks

Assistant Children & Youth

Ministries Coordinator

Audrey Clayton

Nursery Coordinator

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Property Manager

Marlin Wilder

Sexton

Regina Milton

Weekend Sexton

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Kitchen Coordinator

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Communications

Emily Rodgers

Administrative Office Assistant

Prentice White

Verger/ Wedding Coordinator

WARDENS' COUNCIL

Margaret Devenish - Sr. Warden

Robert Dunn - Jr. Warden

Donald Christian - Treasurer

Paul Bonner - Assistant 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 number to call *In Case of an Emergency Only* is 256.533.7007. All other calls including church or building and grounds issues 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 Avenue SE Huntsville AL 35801

256.533.2455 Fax: 256.533.2374

nativity-hsv.org

2017 CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATION

Christmas dedications are \$20 each

Please complete this form with your check made payable to *Nativity Flower Guild* and return it no later than **Sunday, December 17th** to:

Andrea Vandervoort, 434 Locust Ave. Huntsville, AL 35801

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION. If you have questions, you may call Andrea at 256.539.2673.

Your Name as it is to be listed in Christmas service leaflet (if you do not wish your name listed, please indicate) _____

Phone #: _____

Name for this dedication: _____

Please check the box next to the dedication you desire. All dedications read:

To the glory of God and...

☐ In loving memory of...

☐ In thanksgiving for...

☐ In celebration of...

