



# The STEEPLE

April 2018

## 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

*Almighty God, giver  
of every good gift: look  
graciously on your  
Church, and so guide  
the minds of those who  
shall choose a rector for  
Nativity that we may  
receive a faithful pastor  
who will care for your  
people and equip us for  
our ministries; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord,  
Amen*

I have spent the better portion of my life at the Church of the Nativity. From early years spent participating in choir, to teenage years carrying torches, and now as the youth minister, I have found at the Church of the Nativity a home and avenue for experiencing something greater than myself. As many of you may know, around age fifteen I began to be aware I might be called to one day explore the discernment process for the priesthood, and after a few years in England & New Hampshire, I came back to Alabama to explore that possibility. After a prayerful discernment process with Nativity and the Diocese, the next step in that journey will be with Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, VA in the hopes of being ordained to the diaconate and priesthood (God willing and the people consenting) around 2021.



There are actually three of us young Nativity women who are currently on a similar path. The Rev. Sarah (Dunn) Syer is currently serving as Rector at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Lake Tahoe, Emily (Collette) Linton is finishing her junior year at Virginia Theological Seminary, and I am looking at beginning my first year there. I say all of this because I want to highlight the importance of our ministry to children & youth. Speaking for all three of us (I got permission from them!), Nativity played a very large and transformative part in forming us and our relationship with God in our earlier years, and I think a large part of that had to do with numerous adults who took our spiritual formation seriously. We have a wonderful, wonderful group of young people in our children and youth programs today, and I encourage you to reach out to us and learn about the many different ways you can support their spiritual formation. All of this is to say, I am deeply grateful for this parish and our community, and I hope we can continue to provide the same opportunities for formation and fellowship which have meant so much to me over the years.

While it feels like this has sometimes been a rather long journey (and there is much more to come), looking back on it I am thankful for every moment. I am grateful for the many years I have been able to spend at Nativity where I have been able to glimpse the Kingdom of God in our worship, fellowship, and service to one another and the world. I have been blessed to explore a deeper relationship with God with children, youth, and so many adults. And there is no doubt that I am who I am and where I am today because of the support, compassion, grace, and love I have come to know in this community which we continually create together. Thank you for being a part of this journey!

*Sarah Watts*

# Celebrating Nativity's 175th Birthday!

Church of the Nativity will celebrate our 175th birthday this year, and we want you to be part of the celebration!

**April-September, 2018** Beginning Tuesday, April 24, each week, a decade of Nativity's rich history will be highlighted on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Nativity's website and in the weekly Steeple. Look for posts on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

**April-September, 2018** Historical documents, photographs and interesting materials from Nativity's history will be displayed in the Banister Room & the bulletin board by the Lady Chapel.



**Wednesday, April 25, 5:30 pm** Wednesday Night Spaghetti Supper in Ridley Hall with an historic flavor.

**Sunday, May 13, 10:00 am Bishop's Visit/Confirmation** In honor of Bishop Kee Sloan's visit, highlights from the previous ten Bishop's in the Diocese of Alabama will be displayed in the Banister Room.

**June 25-27, Vacation Bible School** Dr. Seuss will help our children celebrate Nativity's 175th Birthday with "Oh, The Places We Have Been!"

**Sunday, July 15, 11:00 am Centennial Lemonade in the Shade** Enjoy a cool glass of lemonade following the 10:00 am service and look through scrapbooks celebrating the 100th Birthday of Nativity.

**Sunday, August 26, 11:00am Rally Day Picnic and 175th Kick Off Celebration** During the Rally Day Picnic, visit the Time Capsule Booth and learn how to share your Nativity stories.

**Each Sunday in September** Assistant clergy who have a connection to Nativity will be guest preachers.

**Sunday, September 9th and 16th, 12:00 noon** Family-Style Sunday Lunch in Ridley Hall following 11:00 pm service. As you enjoy your dessert, a panel of parishioners will present their memories of Nativity.

**Sunday, September 23, 5:30 pm** Jive Hive Dinner Dance Party in Ridley Hall with special presentation of "Nativity through the Ages". This one night only performance promises to be a smash hit!

**Sunday, September 30, 5:00 pm** Following Choral Evensong, a Champagne reception will be held in the church yard. There will be toasts to the past and prayers for the future as the Time Capsule is buried in the children's playground, a fitting symbol of our faith in the future of the Church of the Nativity.

For additional information, please contact

Mem Bryant [membryant@knology.net](mailto:membryant@knology.net)

Pattie Cline [clinepj@bellsouth.net](mailto:clinepj@bellsouth.net)

175th Celebration Co-Chairwomen

or Emily Rodgers, Staff Support

[erodgers@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:erodgers@nativity-hsv.org)

## PARISH PROFILE COMMITTEE NEEDS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are actively working to gather input for the Parish Profile. The Parish survey is now available online [nativity-hsv.org](http://nativity-hsv.org), either as an online survey, Word document, or printable PDF. Paper copies are also available in the Parish Hall, by the water fountain and outside of Bibb Chapel. Please take the time to respond with your thoughts about Nativity and our next rector. If you submitted a comment card, you still need to take the survey! Survey responses are due by April 8.

There will be additional opportunities for discussion during listening groups that will begin after the survey responses are collected.

If you have questions please reach out to a member of the profile team: Ted Briggs, Jim Douthit, Mickey Ellis, Robert Mullins, Amy Nation, Ruth Rainey and Jennifer Retzke.

**[CLICK HERE TO TAKE THE SURVEY ONLINE](#)**

## CONNECT WITH NATIVITY!



CHURCH  
OF THE  
NATIVITY,  
EPISCOPAL  
Est. 1843



We are blessed at Nativity to have a busy and thriving parish that is full of life, and we want to make sure that we are connecting with you. Whether you are a regular at the 7:45 service on Sunday morning, a youth who comes to EYC on Sunday nights, here all the time, or someone who stops by for a visit every once and a while you are an important part of who we are. Take a look at all the ways you can connect with us and stay informed about the opportunities and activities that are happening every day at Nativity.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

LIKE us on Facebook! If you are on Facebook you can find us at [facebook.com/nativityhsv](https://facebook.com/nativityhsv).

Share with us on Instagram! You follow [nativityhsv](https://www.instagram.com/nativityhsv) and use #wearenativityhsv when tagging photos.

Follow us on Twitter! Follow [@nativityhsv](https://twitter.com/nativityhsv)

### THE STEEPLE

The Steeple is published the first Wednesday of every month and is sent via email. The Steeple includes announcements, articles and information about what is happening at Nativity. Paper copies are available at the Church office or by mail for our parishioners who don't use email.

### THIS WEEKK AT NATIVITY

E-blast sent every Monday that includes weekly events, announcements and links to the weekly sermon.

### NATIVITY NOTES

Printed weekly and included in your service bulletin each Sunday morning.

### NATIVITY WEBSITE

Visit <http://www.nativity-hsv.org> for everything you want to know about Nativity!

Still want more? Reach out to Nativity Communications Director, Vicky Hinton if you would like more information about how to connect with Nativity. [vhinton@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:vhinton@nativity-hsv.org) or 256-533-2455 ext. 221.



# learn, pray, play

**VBS 2018 June 25-27**

In honor of the Church of Nativity's 175th anniversary, VBS will explore the story of our church. We'll spend the week having fun and learning about the exceptional people and significant events that make our church a special place.

Registration is open for children age 4 through rising 6th grade. VBS is Monday, June 25 to Wednesday, June 27 from 1.00 to 4.00 in the afternoon. Would you like to be on the planning team or volunteer during VBS? VBS is fun and easy with lots of help Adults with children attending VBS can volunteer during registration. Other adults and teens (rising 7th grade and up), register [here](https://tinyurl.com/LaserTag-Bowling2018). Questions, email [mcoc@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:mcoc@nativity-hsv.org)

Oh,  
the Places  
We have  
Been!

## Club 56 Happenings

Our Club 56 kids have planned a fun and busy Spring! Club 56 Senior Visits will be April 22<sup>nd</sup> immediately following Sunday School. Lunch is at Pane e Vino followed by visits to our homebound seniors. We will arrive back at the church by 1:00. Let Amy know if you can come along!

JYC (Junior Youth Community) will continue to meet every Sunday until May 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:30. On May 6<sup>th</sup>....its LASER TAG!!! JYC will combine with EYC and head to Stars and Strikes for a fun evening of laser tag and bowling from 6:00-7:30.

Please sign up using this link <https://tinyurl.com/LaserTag-Bowling2018>

Contact Amy Brooks with questions at [abrooks@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:abrooks@nativity-hsv.org).

It's been an exciting and fun year with our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Thank you for sharing these fabulous kids with us!

## Mark your calendars for these dates

### April 8

Children's Chapel resumes during 8:45 service

Sunday school, JYC and EYC resume at their regular times

### May 6

8:45 service All ages liturgy and teacher recognition.

10:00 Last Sunday school meeting of this school year  
Sunday Fun Day celebration during Sunday school

### May 13

Change to summer schedule

10:00 service Bishop's visit and confirmation

Outdoor children's chapel during 10:00 service in summer months

## What I Learned Building Brick by Brick

Contributed by Wren Bryant

My name is Wren Bryant. I am in the 6th grade and I was one of the older kids in "Building Faith Brick by Brick" Lenten children's program. I can definitely say that it was fun for both younger and older kids. I thought that it was a creative way to teach children about the Bible. I had a great time and would love to do it again!

I thought that it was good for both younger and older kids because Legos are a thing that all age groups can enjoy. The Bible stories were also not very complex, which made it easy to follow along and the Legos made the activity interesting. No two kids' Lego creations were the same since everyone's perspective was different. It was fun to see what had been built. Since everyone's creations were different, some were funny. Once, we were talking about the night Jesus was born, and one kid built a nativity scene with a shark on the top!

It was also something that could be challenging for the older kids like me. I built a scene for the story of the Tower of Babel. My tower part was pretty good, but then I decided to throw in some animals and so I also made a horse-drawn wagon from scratch.

This program is a fun way to chat with people you know while building with Legos and learning about the Bible all at the same time. You can even work together and build a project with a friend! Or, you may get to know people that you wouldn't normally hang out with. One moment you could be building and the next you could be getting to know someone. You just don't know what interests you and another person may have in common!

I just loved the way that the Bible stories were presented and then the kids were able to use their imaginations to show how they understood the story. I hope even more kids can come if the "Building Faith Brick by Brick" program happens again.







## Upcoming Youth Schedule

April 8

10:00 am Sunday School  
5:00 pm Middle School EYC  
6:00 pm: High School EYC

April 22

10:00 am Sunday School  
5:00 pm Middle School EYC  
6:00 pm High School EYC

April 15

10:00 am Sunday School  
12:30pm Confirmation Retreat  
5:00 pm Middle School EYC  
6:00 pm High School EYC

April 29

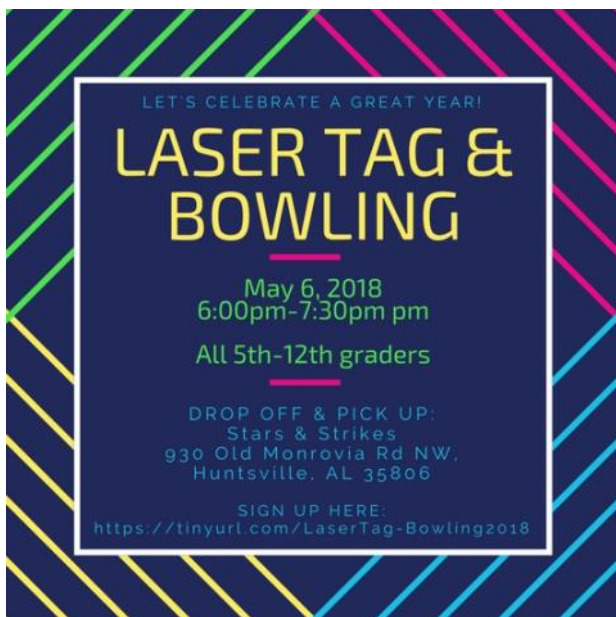
10:00 am Sunday School  
12:30 pm-3:30 pm Putt Putt Masters

Come play putt-putt on a gorgeous afternoon with your friends! Wear a crazy golf outfit and come ready to compete for the green jacket! Prizes for best and worst costume will be awarded. Drop off is at Nativity and pick-up is at Southern Adventures - lunch will be provided!

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/PuttPuttMasters2018>

May 6

10:00 am: Sunday School  
6:00 pm-7:30 pm: Laser Tag & Bowling  
Help us celebrate a great year at Stars & Strikes from 6:00 pm-7:30 pm. All youth in 5th-12th grade are invited to join us for an evening of bowling & laser tag! Drop off & pick up are at Stars & Strikes (930 Old Monrovia Road, Huntsville, AL 35806).  
Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/LaserTag-Bowling2018>.



## Reflections from Awakenings

From March 16-18, 7 youth from Nativity made their way down to Camp McDowell for Awakenings, a spiritual retreat for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders. They had an amazing time and we hope that after reading their experiences below, your youth might think about signing up for a camp session!

*Awakenings grew my relationship with God and the people around me and was an amazing experience!* – Vivian Hinton

*Being at camp is one of the best things you can experience and awakenings was a perfect example of that. You get to meet new people and have a great time. It was just amazing.* – Anna Katherine Ayres

*Awakenings had great speakers with amazing stories. They were so nice and it was a great place to meet new people.* – Caroline Brooks

*Awakenings was a great time and I was given the chance to make so many new friends!* – Sadie Anglin

*Awakenings grew my expectations for Camp McDowell. I made so many new friends and I learned so many new things about God and relationships!* – Sarah Coleman Hornsby

*Awakenings grew my friendship with God and the people around me. I learned so much more about the people around me at Camp and how to be myself and stay close to God.* – Olivia O'Halloran



Contributed by Marilyn Evans

It is hard to believe that this will be our 8<sup>th</sup> season! Greene Street has grown a lot since 2011! The parishioners of the Church of the Nativity really have supported the farmers, food vendors and artists at the market. The fees the vendors pay for a space at the market come back to the Nativity Outreach Committee. Outreach distributes the funds to those who need help in our community.

Greene Street has an incredible group of volunteers – most from Nativity, but some from other churches. We have fun doing the work, but the mission of the market is the big thing.

The Greene Street Market moves us out of the church buildings and into the community. Greene Street is a very “coming together” project. It draws from all parts of Huntsville and offers a fun, relaxed environment for people from many different backgrounds to get to know each other.

We are excited about the vendors this year. You will have lots of choices.

Here are the farmers –

Champion Farms	Brosemer Farms
Cloud Farm	King Family Farm
Campbell Farm	Turner Farm
Hobbs Farm	Olive Branch Waygu
Frenchy's Farm	Greenleaf Farm
Harbin Farm	Humble Heart Farm
Scott's Orchard	South Eden
Foodsapes	Bagwell Farm
DSR Farms	Cool Valley Farm

The market has prepared foods, arts and music, as well. A complete listing is posted each week on our Facebook page – The Greene Street Market – and

on our web page. If you have a hard time remembering to come to the market on Thursdays sign up for our weekly email on our web site [www.greenestreetmarket.com](http://www.greenestreetmarket.com) and we'll remind you.

When you shop at Greene Street, you help build the local food infrastructure of north Alabama. Much has been said about the work our volunteers do, and we couldn't exist without them. **But those of you who come and buy at Greene Street are the real heroes. You make this all work out !**

**Thank you.**

*A farmer, is "a dispenser of the 'Mysteries of God.'"*  
-Wendell Berry

**The 2018 season of the Greene Street Market opens Thursday, May 3 at 4:00pm. We hope you will all be there for the festivities!**



**Sunday, May 6**

**10:00 am, Ridley Hall**

Join us during the Sunday school hour for a special presentation

*Impacting our community one tomato at a time!*

**Refreshments, door prizes & fun!**

**Questions:**

**[greenestreetmarket@gmail.com](mailto:greenestreetmarket@gmail.com)**

**Visit the Greene Street Market Store TODAY!**

**Open Monday-Friday 10-2 & Sunday 10-12.  
Confirmation cards now in stock!**

# Outreach Highlights

Contributed by Michael Shipley

Outreach provides support for 37 agencies in Huntsville and through Episcopal Relief and Development around the world. From time to time we want to highlight those agencies and give you more information.



The Pathfinder Inc. is a residential rehabilitation program for men who are serious about recovering from their drug and alcohol additions but need extra support as they rebuild their lives.

Pathfinder houses 43 men with a mission to help them take responsibility for their lives. The men must have completed a detox treatment program and within two weeks of entry must secure a job in order to pay for the participation in the program. Pathfinder provides a supportive, structured environment in which to learn responsibility and other recovery skills. For more information or to make additional donations please visit their website: [PathfinderHSV.com](http://PathfinderHSV.com)

## HAP SUNDAY IS APRIL 8

(Huntsville Assistance Program)

Items needed this month include:

Cereal

Canned Meat

Peanut Butter

Canned Fruit

Boxed Meals

Boxed Potatoes

Bar Soap

Please place the items in the HAP  
bins located in  
Ridley Hall and the breezeway.



## Help fill a need for Pathways, Inc.

Pathways, Inc. has some specific needs for building and grounds repairs and improvements, transportation, and certain furniture items. If you would like to help Pathways directly, please contact Mother Bonnie ([bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:bmccrickard@nativity-hsv.org)), or Margaret Day Baker, Outreach Committee Chair, and we will make the connection!

## Ready, Set, Build! Contributed by Bill Giardini

Spring is here so get your hammers ready to build a house. We are building a 3 bedroom house at 6125 Belgrade Rd. a nice neighborhood in Northwest Huntsville. We have already completed building our walls and we must now await a slab on which to erect them, which in turn requires some prolong dry weather. Volunteers are needed! No experience necessary! A schedule for the complete build is available at [nativity-hsv.org](http://nativity-hsv.org). For more information contact Bill Giardini at 256-698-5307 or [giardiniw@bellsouth.net](mailto:giardiniw@bellsouth.net). Here is the story of our Partner Family that will move in once the home is complete:



My name is Shaniqua Gaillard. I am originally from Birmingham, AL, but I've made Huntsville my home since age 8. My oldest son, Todd (age 6), attends Highlands Elementary School and my youngest son, Christopher (age 3) attends God's Creations Daycare. I am a member of Progressive Union Missionary Baptist Church

I work nights as a Certified Nurse's Assistant. My mother has been a pillar in my life, always pushing me to strive for better for myself and for my boys. Outside of her support, my Family Support Services Case Manager, Paul, has been a huge factor in my having made it this far in the process of homeownership. Without Paul, I would've never known about the work that Habitat for Humanity does. I never thought I'd be able to own my own home but now, 2 years later I am closer than ever before to achieving what I consider one of my biggest goals. My boys and I have never lived in our very own space, so having my very own home will be a weight lifted off of my shoulders. As a mother, I've always wanted to be able to give my kids something permanent, a backyard to play in, their own rooms, and the comfort of knowing we'll all be together sharing our home are more than a dream come true for us. Recently, I was able to choose the actual lot where my home will be built and choose the way my home will look; that was by far one of the best days of my life! Although it has been a long journey, I am proud of myself for being so close to homeownership. I am so thankful to everyone who is a part of my journey, especially all of the volunteers who are pouring their time and love into building our home and the staff who have supported me along the way.

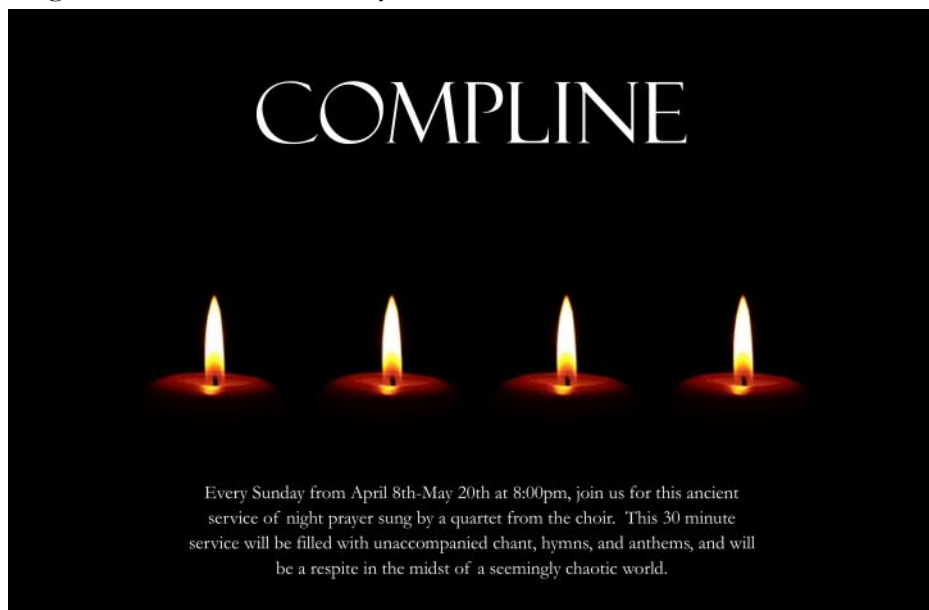


# NATIVITY MUSIC NOTES

Contributed by Christian Crocker

As we enter into this joyful season of Easter, you are invited to take part in some rich musical offerings we have at Nativity. This season we will be beginning a service of sung compline on Sunday evenings at 8:00pm. This service is thirty minutes in length, and is filled with hymns, chant, anthems, and canticles; while the church will be filled with candlelight. In addition to these services, the choir is also in preparation for their Annual Spring Concert which is on **May 20<sup>th</sup> at 5pm**. This year I wanted to focus on the music of Charles Stanford and Arvo Pärt. We will be joined by organist Elizabeth LaJeunesse who will not only accompany the choir, but will also play Pärt's *Annum per annum*. In June the choir will then travel to Tallahassee to sing for Eucharist at St. John's Episcopal Church and join forces with their choir to sing a service of Choral Evensong. These two choirs will be travelling together to England in July of 2020. We have been accepted to residencies at Ely Cathedral and Westminster Abbey. If you'd like more information about choir or any of the other musical offerings we have at Nativity please send me an email or call the church, [ccrocker@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:ccrocker@nativity-hsv.org) or 256-533-2455.

*Alleluia Christ is Risen!*



## NATIVITY SEEKERS CLASS, 2018

These classes are for those who wish to be Confirmed, Received, or those wishing to reaffirm their Baptismal Covenants. Join us! Sunday morning, 10:00-10:45, Bibb Chapel unless otherwise noted.

*For more information, contact The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe, [vmonroe@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:vmonroe@nativity-hsv.org)*

<b>April 8</b>	<b>Church Music</b> Led by Christian Crocker, Organist & Choirmaster	<b>May 6</b>	<b>Serving in the Church &amp; in the World</b> Led by The Rev. Deacon Bob Serio
<b>April 15</b>	<b>Holy Baptism</b> Led by The Rev. Bonnie McCrickard	<b>May 9</b>	<b>Wednesday night supper, rehearse for Confirmation. 5:30pm Ridley Hall</b>
<b>April 22</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist</b> Led by The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe	<b>May 13</b>	<b>Bishop's visit, Confirmation &amp; Reception</b> 9:00am gather in Bibb Chapel 10:00am Service
<b>April 29</b>	<b>The other Sacraments</b> Led by Marion Sprott-Goldson, Seminarian		



## Spiritual Development Committee

Spirituality



at Nativity

Your Spiritual Development committee is creating a newsletter that will go out once a month. The content will consist of opportunities that we think might be of interest to you as you continue in your spiritual growth and development (i.e. speakers, workshops, leadership events, etc.). Our goal is to include opportunities locally as well as regionally. Our first newsletter went February and will be a work in process. We look forward to hearing your feedback. To see the newest edition of this newsletter [CLICK HERE](#). In order to receive the monthly newsletter, you will need to "opt in" to the newsletter database. Visit [nativity-hsv.org](http://nativity-hsv.org) and click on the green "Sign Up Here" button to be added to the mailing list for this new publication!

**The Mission Guild cordially invites  
you to attend our monthly meeting!**



**April 16, 2018**

**10:00 am**

**Joffrion Library**

Our Guest Speaker will be The Rev. Anthony Ford, Chaplain at the inpatient Hospice Facility located at Redstone Village.

Berta Hargett and Mary Jean Diehl will provide refreshments. Please remember to bring bingo prizes to donate to the Aquarius Club.

## WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Contributed by Donna Rush

I was reading, *8 Habits of Love*, by Rev. Ed Bacon when I said I would share comments about the book. We bought the book during a one and one-half day presentation by Rev. Bacon in Knoxville. Well, I failed to consider that Ed was reading the book-the same book, too. So...I went back and reviewed a book that kept popping back up in my thoughts. The book is, *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption*, by Laura Hillenbrand.

As we walked the now almost 40 days of Lent I have struggled with all the darkness that we humans see on TV or in our newsfeeds. The school shootings, bitter political fights, wars, and the list goes on. The book chronicles the wartime experience of Louis Zamperini, an Olympic runner in Hitler's Berlin. Lt. Zamperini's plane was shot down over the Pacific. His story about his survival at sea is unbelievable. Then his real hell began when he and a fellow survivor were captured by the Japanese and held prisoners until the end of the war. Zamperini's treatment was beyond any definition of brutal. The level of inhumanity he experienced was exceedingly difficult to read. I must confess that I speed read through some of the "worst" torture. One particularly sadistic tormentor seemed to revel in his ability to dehumanize his prisoner, the Olympic track star.

After Lt. Zamperini was liberated and returned home, he struggled to put his life back together. His body would never return to his pre-war strength, he was racked with what we now know as PTSD, and he plotted the murder of his captor. However, then he experienced the wonderful gift of grace. For Zamperini that gift came when he least expected it. I have experienced that same grace in my own life. That grace is the ability to forgive.

One of my favorite quotes from the book is, "The one who forgives never brings up the past to that person's face. When you forgive, it's like it never happened. True forgiveness is complete and total." As we embrace the joy of Easter, I hope to remember what it feels like when I forgive, when I receive the gift of grace.

# Stewardship of Creation

## Visiting the lake this summer?

### Consider some environmentally friendly options

Contributed by David Chadwick

Sailing on Lake Guntersville in the winter can be beautiful and peaceful. There might be the occasional bass boat go by at high speed, but after they have passed by to wherever they are going in such a hurry, the lake quickly returns to the sound of the wind and the waves, and the occasional loon calling. Last weekend we heard some of the first sounds of summer; the first pair of Purple Martins for the year chattering to each other as they skimmed over the waves, and a couple of jet skis blasting around in aimless circles, making a less peaceful contribution to the afternoon.

You will already have detected my bias, because my sport is sailing, a wonderfully environmentally friendly sport where you get to use the invisible power of the wind and a knowledge of how waves



move and change to get around a race course as fast as you can. I was interested to learn that 23 out of the 27 references to sailing in the Bible are found in the Acts of the Apostles. Sailing was one of the best ways to spread the Good News! As Paul experienced in Acts 27, the wind does not always do what we expect or come from the predicted direction. He had many adventures as he traveled around the Roman Empire spreading the Good News, including being driven by a storm to Malta when he had set out to answer charges in Rome. While he was in Malta, Paul healed the father of the chief official of the island.



There are many great ways to enjoy time at the lake this summer without burning fossil fuels and adding to the polluted haze that can hang over the lake on some still summer days. Firstly, swimming. Teaching young children how to swim and how to stay safe at the lake while having fun can be a great part of this. The Alabama lake fish might nibble at your feet, but some people pay for this privilege with their “fish pedicures.” Paddle boarding and kayaking are other options and are great exercise too. You may want to stay out of the main channel where the power boaters are doing their thing, but you can explore the little coves and backwaters instead. Like Paul, you may not find yourself where you thought you were headed. But also like Paul, you will get to know your patch of water and its inhabitants a lot better by letting the wind and the waves have their way.

## Garden Guild Workday

Thursday, May 3rd

9:00 am

Wear gardening gloves & bring  
your shears!

## Camp McDowell Summer Camp

Registration is open for  
summer camp at Camp  
McDowell and Bethany  
Village for rising 1st through  
12th graders.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more  
information.



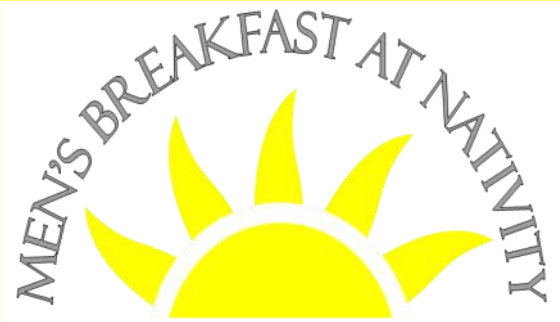
# MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Led by Charles Morley

The Wednesday night Men's Bible Study will reconvene on Wednesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> for the first of three weekly sessions. We'll follow the usual format:

- Class begins at 6:00 pm in the first floor of Joffrion Hall.
- 45 - 50 minute presentation (I will set the sacred timer).
- Thunderous, sustained applause, punctuated by wild shouts of "Amen".
- 10 minute discussion – frequently taking the form of embarrassed silence.
- Everyone leaves at 7:00 pm.

I hope to see you all. As usual, Jesus promised to be there (Mt 18:20). He mentioned he would be taking the roll. Bring a friend – all denominations are welcome. (Last time the Methodists even asked questions.)



SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

7:00am

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

RIDLEY HALL



## Daughters of the King

We invite all ladies of Nativity to join us!

**Tuesday April 17, 2018**

**11:30 A.M. in Ridley Hall**

Our speaker Deacon Donna Floyd will speak about the use of Anglican rosaries (prayer beads), then lead a service in Bibb Chapel using the beads.

Lunch cost is \$7.00. You will need a lunch Reservation.

Contact Joan East [joaneast@knology.net](mailto:joaneast@knology.net) or 804-731-3429 for more information and lunch reservations.



## 2018 Altar Flower Dedications

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates Available: April 22, June 17, 24, July 1, August 12, 19, September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

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





# PARISH LIFE AT NATIVITY



*Paul-Gordon Chandler Event*



*Wednesdays in Lent guest speaker  
Bishop Sloan*



*Nativity Youth at Awakenings Weekend at  
Camp McDowell*



*Palm Sunday Parade*



*Easter Day*



## Prayer Requests

**Comfort those requesting prayers for healing in body, mind or spirit:  
for healing:**

Shirley Cobun, Virginia "Ginny" Crump, Diane Claxton, Lawrence Lacy, Nancy Shotts, Tom Booth, Dottie Hilcheey, Al Elliot, Maria West, Lois Dreher, Phyllis Beck, Margaret Lichty, Fred Stucky, Anne Boles, Joel Nitz, Jody Mowrer, Suzy Naumann, JoAnn Moorman, Tommie Taylor, Gerry Nitz, Ted Bledsoe, Kevin Wahl, Cecelia Duncan, Bill Nettles, Leigh Wahl, Heidi Foreman, Elsie Olsen

**for the departed:**

Hedy Billmayer, Bob Ward Jr., Tom Hodge

**for those deployed with the Military:**

US Navy, Kenneth Vandervoort                      Afghanistan, Denver Colin  
Middle East, Greg Riddle                              US Navy, Wyatt Perry

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

4/1	Brayden Durnya	4/2	Sidney Gunter	4/3	Olivia Drees	4/4	Sarah Fleming
4/4	Maggie Jones	4/4	Nannette Aboudonia	4/6	Harry Cantey	4/6	Bankston Creech
4/7	Carter Watson	4/8	Sarah Catherine Miller	4/9	Mary Kate Brooks	4/10	Caroline Steigner
4/10	Trey Schiber, III	4/10	Ralph Hornsby, III	4/10	Harper Dawes	4/12	Preston Heritage
4/12	Greer Heritage	4/13	Ellie Walker	4/14	Abby Ham	4/14	Jack Ham
4/14	Luke Ham	4/14	Sam Rice	4/14	Sadie Anglin	4/16	Austill Baker
4/17	Hill Angelichio	4/17	Ava Allen	4/18	Bradford Hall	4/18	Alex Ahearn
4/18	Mary Ellis Alison	4/18	Madelyn Alison	4/19	Fenway Goeke	4/19	Luke McClendon
4/19	Cate White	4/22	Emme Roderick	4/22	Lily Cantey	4/23	Clara Williams
4/26	Isabella Panico	4/26	Kylie Meyer	4/28	Ari Gunnar	4/29	Brooks Whitehead
4/30	Thomas Aldag						

## **Parish Financial Report Period Ending 02/28/2018**

	CURRENT MONTH	BUDGET for PERIOD	ACTUAL YTD	BUDGET YTD
<b>Pledges Re- ceived</b>	\$ 74,809.20	\$ 93,260.12	\$ 230,938.41	\$ 186,520.20
<b>Plate</b>	\$ 8,566.50	\$ 17,083.37	\$ 17,485.02	\$ 34,166.70
<b>Other Revenues</b>	\$ 3,118.92	\$ 9,083.26	\$ 6,174.12	\$ 18,166.60
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 86,494.62	\$ 119,426.75	\$ 254,597.55	\$ 238,853.50
<b>Diocesan, School of Theology, &amp; Out- reach</b>	\$ 14,337.35	\$ 24,827.26	\$ 34,768.32	\$ 49,654.40
<b>Personnel</b>	\$ 55,021.77	\$ 69,381.08	\$ 110,145.17	\$ 138,762.20
<b>Other Expenses</b>	\$ 15,449.08	\$ 25,218.43	\$ 32,290.73	\$ 50,436.70
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$ 84,808.20	\$ 119,426.77	\$ 177,204.22	\$ 238,853.30
<b>NET</b>	\$ 1,686.42	\$ (0.02)	\$ 77,393.33	\$ 0.20

## **Keep us in the know!**

Please help us keep our files  
up to date! If you have  
moved, changed your email  
address or have a new  
phone number please let us  
know.

Contact Emily Rodgers at  
[erodgers@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:erodgers@nativity-hsv.org)  
or by calling the Church  
office 256-533-2455  
ext.204. Thank you!

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE April 2018 - AEK (updated 3/28/18)**

EASTER Sunday - April 1 <sup>st</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Monroe		Don Lambert, John Hendricks	Don Lambert	John Hendricks
8:45 am	McCrickard	Monroe	Allen Daniels, Mike Ward, Lane Mickle, Lewie Bates, Tom Devenish, Lee Hicklen	Stacy Moon, Buddy Moon	Clay Sherril
11:00 am	McCrickard	Monroe	Sally Ann Culver, Peter Cobun, Virginia Kobler, Pat Sampson, Deborah Baker	Marcia Cobun, Susan Brown	Polly Blalock
Wednesday, April 4 <sup>th</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		
12 noon	McCrickard		Joan East		
Thursday, April 5 <sup>th</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		
6:00 pm	Foreman		Charles Morley		
Sunday, April 8 <sup>th</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	Monroe		Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett	Ken Barnett
8:45 am	Holland-Shuey	Monroe	Charlie Warren, Mike Ward, Lewie Bates	Bankston Creech	Buddy Moon
11:00 am	Foreman	Monroe	Lee Hicklen, Tom Devenish, Shari William	Elaine Hamner, Ted Briggs	Adalene Bledsoe
Wednesday, April 11 <sup>th</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		
12 noon	Holland-Shuey		Mary Hendricks		
Thursday, April 12 <sup>th</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		
6:00 pm	Sloan		Sally Ann Culver		
Sunday, April 15 <sup>th</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45 am	McCrickard		Sue Johnson	Sue Johnson	Sue Johnson
8:45 am	Monroe	McCrickard	Lane Mickle, Laura Pierce, Linda Watts	Camille Sommer	Aubrey Tycer
11:00 am	Monroe	McCrickard	Pat Sampson, Hanns Billmayer, Virginia Kobler	Mike Brown, Sandy Brown	Martha Joffrion
Wednesday, April 18 <sup>th</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		
12 noon	Monroe		Cheryl Watts		
Thursday, April 19 <sup>th</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		
6:00 pm	Monroe	/ Serio	Laura Pierce		
Sunday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45am	Monroe	Serio	Lea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett	Lea Ann Barnett
8:45am	Monroe	Serio	Joan East, Allen Daniels, Charlie Warren	Amy Creech	Shirley Hale Stucky
11:00am	McCrickard	Serio	Sally Ann Culver, Pat Sampson, Lee Hicklen	John Conover, Pamela Briggs	Ronnie Rogers
Wednesday, April 25 <sup>th</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		
12 noon	Sloan		Joan East		
Thursday, April 26 <sup>th</sup>					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM		
6:00 pm	McCrickard		Sally Ann Culver		
Sunday, April 29 <sup>th</sup> - 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter					
Service	Celebrant	Preacher	LEM	Lector	Intercessor
7:45am	McCrickard		Don Lambert	Don Lambert	Don Lambert
8:45am	Monroe	/ McCrickard	Linda Watts, Kaaren Dunn, Mike Ward	Lynn Sparks Lewis	Fred Beck
11:00am	Foreman	/ McCrickard	Lee Hicklen, Peter Cobun, Ed Vaughn	David Collette, Debbie Collette	Melissa Kirkindall
USHERS					
7:45am	Peter Barber				
8:45am	Dale Moore, Anna Warren, Pat Goodson, Drew Tutt, Richard Spera, Larry Gunter				
11:00am	Michael Shipley, Lou Durnya, Benita Hayes, Tom Lydon, Teague Smith, Ronny Crawford, Rebecca Brothers				
ALTAR GUILD					
1 <sup>st</sup>	Sara Little, Wanda Cobb, Judy Heacock, Debbie Joyner, Elizabeth Pate, Jewell Reynolds, Peggy Serio, Jill Chadwick				
8 <sup>th</sup>	Connie Stephenson, Nancy Colin, Caffey Litkenhous, Linda Watts, Emily Moody				
15 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Johnson, Beth Pugh, Sophia Rowe, Sue Johnson				
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Judy Vann, Rebecca Brothers, Kaaren Dunn, Jewell Reynolds, Peggy Serio				
29 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Carter, Judy Heacock, Alice Lanier, Elizabeth Pate, Linda Watts, Jill Chadwick				
CLERGY ON CALL SCHEDULE					
March 26 <sup>th</sup> -April 1 <sup>st</sup>		April 2 <sup>nd</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>		April 9 <sup>th</sup> - 15 <sup>th</sup>	
McCrickard		Serio		Monroe	
April 16 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup>		April 23 <sup>rd</sup> - 29 <sup>th</sup>			
McCrickard		Serio			
VESTRY Member Of The Day					
April 1 <sup>st</sup>		April 8 <sup>th</sup>		April 15 <sup>th</sup>	
All Hands On Deck		Shirley Hale Stucky		Bob Thompson	
All Hands On Deck		Michael Shipley		Wendy Wilson	
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>		April 29 <sup>th</sup>			
Grant Thomson		Shari Williams			
Dottie Crawford		Kim Huskey			
VERGER SCHEDULE					
April 1 <sup>st</sup>		April 8 <sup>th</sup>		April 15 <sup>th</sup>	
P. White / Lea Ann Barnett		P. White / Hud Heaton		P. White / Don Lambert	
Terry Clevenger		T. Clevenger / Hud Heaton		T. Clevenger / Don Lambert	
April 22 <sup>nd</sup>		April 29 <sup>th</sup>			
P. White / Lea Ann Barnett		P. White / Robert Dunn			
Terry Clevenger		T. Clevenger / Robert Dunn			



## April 2018

*The remainder of this month (following all the Easter and Holy Week festivities) is pretty straight forward. I hope I have honored all requests made—I realize that some of you might have already taken off for Spring break or interims by the time I made the preference request. There are some of you whose names do not appear on this schedule at all\*; please do not assume that you have done anything wrong, I just ran out of spaces before I ran out of names! I will make sure you get on the May schedule as soon as possible. In the meantime, as we always say, do stop by the back hallway if you're at church to see if we need a last minute sub!* -Dorrie Nutt

### April 8

8:45 A/M Ward	11:00 A/M Nutt
C Sam Hartley, Patrick Ahearn	C Margaret Bryant, Luke Alison
T Alana Boyce, Anna Mullins	T Mary Ellis Alison
T Lucy Ellis, Alex Ahearn	T Madeline Alison
S Tess Lambert	S Evans Bryant
AS Park Ellis	AS Evans Bryant

### April 15

8:45 A/M Putt	11:00 A/M Sherrill
C Cameron Pinson, I Braudaway	C JB Stockton, Dylan Chenoweth
T Thea Sommer, Alton Hudson	T Phoebe Duncan
T Ellie Webber, Olivia O'Halloran	T Carter Watson
S Britt Webber	S Ella Jane Duncan
AS Will Pinson	AS Carter Watson

### April 22

8:45 A/M Sherrill	11:00 A/M Nutt
C S Gunter, Katherine Hunter	C Bankston Creech, R Kamelchuk
T Charles Warren, Sadie Anglin	T Caroline Hornsby
T Thomas Aldag, Warren Towry	T Sarah Coleman Hornsby
S Evelyn Warren	S Mary Maddox Creech
AS Cooper Gunter	AS Laura Kamelchuk

### April 29

8:45 A/M Putt	11:00 A/M
C H Morring, V Dodgen	C Molly Ward, Evan Ward
T Clara Keener, AK Ayres	T Catherine Hendricks
T Vivian Hinton, Elizabeth Evans	T Emery Windham
S Ellie Walker	S Emery Windham
AS Clay Walker	AS Catherine Hendricks

\*Foster, Sanders, Malone, Rainey, Young

The STEEPLE is published once monthly. To submit events or articles email:

[vhinton@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:vhinton@nativity-hsv.org)

The deadline for the next issue is

**Monday, April 23**

### **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

**Prentice White**

Verger/ Wedding Coordinator

**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

**Beverly Franklin**

Finance Manager

**Amy Kennedy**

Worship & Ministry Assistant

**Vicky Hinton**

Communications

**Emily Rodgers**

Administrative Office Assistant

**John Buyse**

Property Manager

**Marlin Wilder**

Sexton

**Regina Milton**

Weekend Sexton

**Sally Stockton**

Kitchen Coordinator

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

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### **2018 VESTRY**

#### **WARDENS' COUNCIL**

**Senior Warden**-Donald Christian

**Junior Warden**-Grant Thomson

**Treasurer**-Paul Bonner

**Assistant Treasurer**-Don Evans

**Clerk of the Vestry**-Dottie Crawford

**Finance Chair**-Jason Angelichio

**Member at Large**-Wendy Wilson

#### **VESTRY LIAISONS**

**Adult Christian Formation & Spiritual Development**-Margaret Gleason

**Building & Grounds**- Bob Thompson

**Children's Christian Formation**-Teresa Pinson

**Communications and Technology**-Shirley Hale Stucky

**Hospitality and Welcoming**-Jeff Johnson

**Ministry of Worship and Music**-Dorrie Nutt

**Outreach**-Don Evans

**Parish Entities**-Don Lambert

**Parish Life**-Fisher Hutchens

**Pastoral Care**-Kim Huskey

**Stewardship**-Michael Shipley

**Trust and Endowments**-Wendy Wilson

**Youth Christian Formation**-Shari Williams

**Youth Representative**-Sara Hutchens