

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY, EPISCOPAL



# THE STEEPLE

The mission of the Episcopal Church of the Nativity, as part of the family of God, is to proclaim and spread the Word and Work of God through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, by Eucharistic worship and by ministry to the world.

## ***Nativity Fest 2007: Peace, Love & Camp McDowell***

"Is today the day? Is today the day we are really going to Camp!" These enthusiastic words awakened two of our Nativity parents early this past Friday morning as their young son expressed his excitement about our parish weekend. And sure enough, about 250 Nativity members, ranging in age from three months old to eighty, made their way to wonderful, wonderful Camp McDowell for our third annual parish weekend. What spirited days we shared together, attesting to the strong community, energy and passion we know as God's people at Nativity. Many thanks to Leah Brambach, Amy Brooks, Holly Ellis, and Emily Rodgers who planned and organized the weekend. They couldn't have done it without many other who helped take charge, but we are especially grateful to Nativity staff members Anne Elizabeth Akin, Madeline Mullins, and Father Steve Mosher for also serving on the steering committee.

Our weekend was filled with great food, porch sitting, hiking, canoeing, music, and worship. On Saturday night, we danced and sang the night away with Microwave Dave and the Nukes. Dave Gallaher (Microwave Dave) is a blessing to our Nativity parish family and we are grateful for his generous participation in our life and ministry. Dave brings out the talent in us—Father Steve Mosher made his debut on the keyboard—a talent we can perhaps utilize when Suzanne Purtee is away! Elizabeth and Lee Foster, along with their children Margaret and Harry, were the best dressed "hippies" of the evening, although Skipper Colin gave them a run for their money. Margaret Bryant and Vivian Brouse kept us dancing with the Nukes until it was time to return to our porches for the evening.

The Rev'd Steve Bates, former Nativity member now serving as the Rector of Church of the Holy Nativity in Panama City Beach, led the adult program. Steve reminded us that rest and remembering are important dimensions to practicing the presence of God in our lives. We need places of rest and refreshment like Camp McDowell where we can be assured of God's love and purpose. These places are not an escape from reality, but always point to the reality of God's abiding presence that is with us each and every day, no matter where we are. Every day, can we awaken and exclaim: Is this the day? Is this the day that I will know and see God's presence!

Our parish weekend points to the enthusiasm, faith, and commitment we share every day at Nativity here in Huntsville. In our many ministries proclaiming Christ's love and God's Kingdom, the people of Nativity make the Easter acclamation that "This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it." The presence of the risen Christ is known and shared in many remarkable ways. We've just had one of the best Lent, Holy Week and Easter observances I have known. Children and Youth Sunday on April 22 continued our grand Easter celebration of life and grace. The Adult Learning Center is thriving and growing out of space. This Friday night, we will host another great Dining With Friends party to raise money for the AIDS Action Coalition. We are wrapping up a great year of learning with Bibles Studies, EFM classes, Church School classes and other programming. The Center for Reconciliation and Pilgrimage is reaching beyond Nativity and providing direction for St. Paul's Chapel of Trinity Church in New York in developing their pilgrimage work at this place where an average of 8000 visitors a day come to remember and pray for the victims of 9/11. The Heifer Market is May 13, another great Nativity outreach project sponsored by our Children's Ministry. Music for the Nativity continues to offer an outstanding repertoire of musical performances, with the best one coming on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, when our choir presents their spring concert. And on May 20<sup>th</sup>, we'll celebrate confirmation with our youth and adults when the Bishop visits. There is much more. "Is this the day? This is the day I will rejoice and be glad in Christ's love!"

*Andy +*

## PARISH PRAYER, STUDY AND OUTREACH

## PRAYERS AND TRANSITIONS

**We pray for our parishioners** Ted Bledsoe, Elsie Olsen, Ann Klecka, Mel Tack, Lynne Swanson, Joan Bennett, Johnnie Vann. We pray also for family members and friends: John Lawson, husband of Phyllis Lawson; Ann, John and family; Leigh Wahl, daughter of Dianne Nettles; Nancy Kelly, sister-in-law of Adalene Bledsoe; Jack Underwood (father of Sally Stockton), Alice Sloane (mother of Pat Sampson); Rusty Sweeney, sister of Benita Hayes; Melna; Carol Turner; Joy Gass; Brownie Daveron, Cindy Holliday; Sara Dement and Paxton Dement, sister and nephew of Mary Frances Worley; Alice Smith, friend of David Johnson; Dan McKee, Martha Graves, mother of Meg Weaver; Jerry Weiler, friend of Genie Adams; Samuel Wells, grandson of Fae Wells. **And for** Greg Riddle and Matthew Lawson, Tim Harbarger serving our nation in the military.

**We give thanks for the birthdays of our children and youth for May 8-18:** Eleanor DeFiore, Evan Ellison, Austin Jenkins, Dylan Clardy, Zoë Maddox, Camille Preston, Evans Alison, Maggie Clanton, Gertrude Aboudonia, Bo Flynn, Robert Walker II.

**We pray for the departed, especially:** Edith Gaston, mother of Lorraine Ennis; Edsel Gauldin, father of Steve Gauldin.

## TRANSITIONS

**New members:** Robert and Rebecca Rogers, transfers from St. Stephen's, Huntsville.

**Transfers:** Cory Watson, Carey Roberts and daughters to St. Stephen's, Huntsville; Eric and Biel Trudell and children to 1st UMC, Huntsville; Mrs. Jennifer Decker Herrington and children to 1st UMC, Huntsville; Mrs. Margaret Handley, to St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Duluth, MN.

**United in Marriage:** Pam Wikle and James Rogers on April 14; Nancy Applegate and Steven Gauldin on April 21.

## Mission Guild Luncheon

Bring a favorite salad to share, canned goods for the food pantry, and a wrapped "white elephant" to the May Mission Guild meeting, May 21 at 10:00 am. The meeting will be held at the home of Shirley Palik, 1306 Hiwan Trail, SE, three blocks behind Grissom High School.

Co-hostesses will be Karen Scriven and Nancy Morris.

During the meeting, the "white elephants" will be auctioned off, with the proceeds to be used for outreach projects.

Want more information? Call Ann Moses, 534-7968, or, Sylvia Garth, 539-5933.

## ECW Luncheon Scheduled

The ECW will meet for lunch on Thursday, May 10 at 11:30 am. Our field seminarian, Judith Comer, will be the guest speaker. Please call the church office, 533-2455, to make your reservation by noon on Tuesday, May 9. A nursery will be available by reservation.

The 2007 Bazaar Chair will give a report on the 2006 Bazaar and tell of the opportunities to help in 2007.

## THE MUSTARD SEED

GIFTS AND BOOKS @ NATIVITY

OPEN SUNDAYS FROM 8:30 AM UNTIL 12:30 PM

MONDAY—FRIDAY 9:00 AM UNTIL 3:00 PM

534-4005 / [themustardseed@netscape.com](mailto:themustardseed@netscape.com)

## MUSIC MINISTRY AND THE ARTS

May brings many musical delights to the Church of the Nativity!

On **Saturday, May 12, at 5 pm**, the singers of the Huntsville Community Children's Chorus, directed by Suzanne Purtee, and the Junior Chorus, directed by Lea Hoppe, present their final spring concert "A Mother's Day Bouquet" in the nave. Joining the singers will be Lee Hicklen (percussion), and special guest, mezzo-soprano Gregory Peebles.

On **Sunday, May 13, at 7:30 pm**. Mezzo-Soprano Gregory Peebles presents a solo recital with accompanist James Jenssen. Originally from Hartselle, Gregory now sings in Chicago and across the U.S. His Concert, "Mute with Delight: Songs of First Love" reflects songs he first learned as a singer, which helped him to fall in love with the art of singing, as well as with certain composers. Gregory has a unique voice and is a talented young artist; he will sing a diverse group of compositions ranging from composers such as Henry Purcell, Franz Schubert, and Benjamin Britten, to those from the American Spiritual tradition.

The Nativity Choir presents its Spring Concert on **Friday evening, May 18, at 7:30 pm**. The concert features G.F. Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum*, an exciting work both to sing and to hear. Handel composed the *Te Deum* in two weeks back in June of 1743, following the victory of the British and Hanovaian troops over the French at Dettingen. Full of royal pomp and circumstance, three trumpets, two oboes, tympani, and strings will accompany the choir in this festive song of praise. Rounding out the concert program will be anthems by Bach, Stanford, and Finzi, and an orchestral Suite of J.S. Bach. Our newly refurbished harpsichord will be heard in the continuo section of the orchestra.

For additional information on all upcoming concerts at Nativity be sure to check the web site or email Suzanne.

## Art in the Banister Room



Our May featured artist is Lucille Thompson Love, one of our parishioners. Lucille's display of luscious oils range from small to grand.

In addition to her artwork, Lucille does restoration and conservation of antique paintings and porcelains.

You can see Lucille's work during the week between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm, and on Sundays.

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION AND NOTABLES

## CHILDREN

Children's Chapel 8:45 service only, for K-2nd grade.

A Nursery is available for infants through 4 years old during the 8:45 AND 11:00 AM service. The Nursery is located in the 1st of Joffrion Hall.

- Scrapbook Sunday is THIS Sunday during Sunday School hour in Ridley Hall. Please bring your pictures from Parish Weekend and make a family scrapbook page for our book. If you did not attend and would like to join us, please do. We will have snacks and lots of miscellaneous pictures for you to help us make the scrapbook. We hope to see all of you there!
- Don't forget to mail your VBS registration forms to the church office no later than July 1. The earlier, the better!
- Heifer Market is Sunday, May 13 during the Sunday School hour.

## YOUTH

- Jr. EYC will be meeting this Sunday from 6- 7:30 P.M. at the home of Emily and Robert Rodgers. We will be grilling out and doing a mini service project. The Rodgers reside at 1318 Toney Drive. Please call Emily at 881-0808 with any questions.
- The last day of Sr. EYC for the school year is May 9th! Meet in the youth room for surprise at 7 P.M.
- Confirmation dinner and rehearsal is Thursday May 17th at 5:30 P.M. Please RSVP to Anne Elizabeth, 533.2455
- A special thank you to all who supported the EYC this year. We especially want to thank David Joffrion and Hunt and Blake Hudson for being such amazing EYC

Top of the Hill Gang "On the Road"

Theater Excursions (Nashville)

Price: \$130 (+/-) and includes

Coffee & Biscuits

Cost of Ticket

Lunch

Transportation

Wine & Cheese in P.M.

When: October 27, 2007

"My Fair Lady"

December 1, 2007

"White Christmas"

March ?, 2008

"Camelot"

Dining Out: 12:00 Noon

June 3<sup>rd</sup> at "Palette"

July 15 at "Pearls" in Sewanee

Movies: (Nativity Nickelodeon) 2:00 PM, Library

May 29

"Parent Trap"

June 26

July 31

August 28

## SUNDAY MORNING FORMATION CLASSES

### ADULT CLASSES

Simmerman Bible Study	through May 13th	Elise Taylor, Lisa Caprio, Betty McCaleb, Gaines Watts, Steve Likos	Library
Conversations with Clergy	Through May 13	Father Andy, Father Steve, Deacon Mary	Ridley Hall
Meet the Vestry	1st Sundays of each month		Banister Room

### YOUTH CLASSES

7 <sup>th</sup> GRADE CLASS	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Ridley Hall
8 <sup>th</sup> GRADE CLASS	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Ridley Hall
9 <sup>th</sup> GRADE CONFIRMATION CLASS	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Joffrion Hall
SR HIGH SUNDAY CLASS (10-12)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Joffrion Hall

### CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Nursery, birth to 4 years	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Joffrion Hall
Godly Play, 3 and 4 year olds	downstairs Ridley Hall, Angel Lane
WoRM, K through 5 <sup>th</sup> graders	downstairs Ridley Hall, Angel Lane

**Help make a SCRAPBOOK. Come to Ridley Hall.**

Bible Improv	3rd
Church Mouse	4th/5th
Parable Place	K
Theology Theater	1st
Thou Art	2nd

6th Grade Bible Study Class 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Ridley Hall

### ADULT FORMATION WEEKDAY CLASSES:

Tuesdays, 7:15 am Men's Bible Study. We are studying Genesis. Bring your Bible and join us on Tuesdays. Coffee is available at 7:00 a.m. The group meets in the Library.

**The Tennessee Valley Convocation of Episcopal Church Women (ECW)** will host the Annual Women's Weekend at Camp McDowell May 18-20. The Rev'd Susan Sloan, Rector of St. Stephen's, Huntsville, will be the speaker. Please call Alyce Smith, 536-4198, for a registration form or additional information.



### New Ice Machine

A huge THANK YOU to the ECW for donating money to the church for the purchase of a new ice machine. It is installed in the kitchen and working beautifully. The old machine served us well for 22 years.

## WORSHIP AND OTHER INFORMATION

### WORSHIP AT NATIVITY



#### Sunday, 6 May, 5 Easter

Acts 13:44-52; Ps 145; Rev. 19:1, 4-9; John 13:31-35

**7:45 HE** Celebrant/Preacher Anderson; Lector: J Hendricks

**8:45 HE** Celebrant / Preacher Anderson; LEMs: W Vann, H Hudson, L Bates ; Lectors: L Bates, C Ezeibe ; Intercessor: C Sherrill  
Acolytes: L Starnes, T Ford, C Kelley, H Kelley, A Glenn

**11:00 HE** Celebrant / Preacher Anderson; LEMs P Cobun, D Dabbs, L Ellison ; Lectors: E Greene, E Hamner; Intercessor: D Baker  
Acolytes: B Havron, C Corley, C Douthit, W George, P Wingo

#### Wednesday, 9 May

Noon HE Preacher/Celebrant Mosher; LEM: D Askins

#### Sunday, 13 May, 6 Easter

Acts 14:8-18, Ps 67; Revelation 21:22-22:5, John 14:23-29

**7:45 HE** Preacher/Celebrant Mosher /Lector: S Johnson

**8:45 HE** Celebrant /Preacher Mosher; LEMs: W Vann, B Shuey, N Sheppard; Lectors: N Fredrickson, C Jackson; Intercessor: S Hale  
Acolytes: C Ezeibe, D Parsons, I Braudaway, K Ezeibe, A Quirk

**11:00 HE** Celebrant /Preacher Mosher; LEMs R Cozby, M Lands, C Watts; Lectors: L Hicklen, M Innes; Intercessor: A Bledsoe  
Acolytes: R Moody, E Moody, R Carter, R Baugher, L Sandy, A Evans, P Wingo

#### Wednesday, 9 May

Noon HE Preacher/Celebrant Anderson; LEM: M Lands

#### **May Ushers**

8:45 Marina and Stephen Pruscha, Marilyn Cozby, George Thacker  
11:00

**The next Baptisms** will be May 20 at 8:00 am, and May 27 at 10:00 am. Please call the church office to sign up—533-2455.

### New White Altar Frontal

The parish has received a new white Jacobean frontal for the altar, offered to the glory of God and in loving memory of Glenn Franklin Manning. We are grateful to Betsy Manning and her family for this memorial gift. The frontal will be blessed on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the 11:00 a.m. service. This frontal will be used when the liturgical season calls for white paraments, particularly for weddings and funerals, as well as during the Great Fifty Days of Easter. We continue to use the special white lace super-frontal on the high feast days, but it is quite old and fragile and we want to preserve its longevity.

### Vestry Liaisons - 2007

Children	Mike Ward	882-0188
Youth	Kathy Hill,	650-0130
Adults and Spirituality	Virginia Caruso	533-6969
Pastoral Care Ministries	Rae Starnes	539-9093
Pilgrimage & Reconciliation	Sadler Evans	882-1806
Outreach	Anne Robinson	534-5300
Parish Life	Wayne Glenn	539-5757
Newcomers/Welcoming	Alyce Smith	536-4198
Communications	Margaret Bibb	881-6767
Senior Warden/Stewardship	Jim Fleming,	539-9634
Annual Stewardship Campaign	David Collette	830-2451
Capital Campaign	Kakki Brooks	533-9893
Junior Warden/Administration	Debbie Harriman	880-3708
Treasurer	Phil Dotts,	533-2569
Finance Committee	Sally Naumann	539-0893
Building and Grounds	Gripp Luther	536-7102
Technology	Ronnie Rogers	539-8044
Worship & Music	Ed Rush	461-0808
Youth Representative	Sarah Dunn	772-2920

### NEW STEEPLE SCHEDULE

*The Steeple* is published the first and third Wednesdays of the month. The deadline for the next Steeple is 12:00 PM Monday, 14 May. Please drop off your articles to Cheryl Watts or email her before the deadline date at [cheryl.watts@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:cheryl.watts@nativity-hsv.org)

Upcoming Steeple publication dates are:

16 May

6 June

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY, EPISCOPAL

208 EUSTIS AVE. SE

HUNTSVILLE, AL 35801

PHONE: 256.533.2455

FAX: 256.533.2374

WEBSITE: WWW.NATIVITY.ORG

Non-profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Huntsville, AL 35807  
Permit # 511

**Summer Schedule** will begin Sunday, May 20 with the Bishop's visit. There will be two worship services, 8:00 and 10:00. from May 20 through Rally Day.