

# Glad Tidings



*Our Mission*

To inspire, nurture and expand Nativity's spiritual growth through faith, worship and community

September 2013

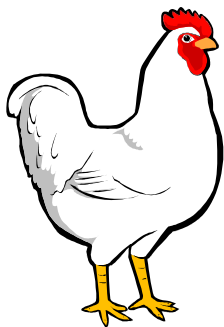
A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Issue No. 09-13

## Please Note

**Blessing of the  
Animals  
6 pm Sunday  
September 29**

**Come All Ye  
Creatures,  
Great and Small**



## Glad Tidings Deadline

**October 2013 Issue  
Deadline: Wednesday  
September 18 at noon  
Mail date: September 25**

**Send articles to  
[gladtidings@  
nativityonline.org](mailto:gladtidings@nativityonline.org)**

## Go Down, Moses, to Nativity's Ministry Teams

One of my favorite stories in the bible is found in Exodus 18 - the story of Moses' father-in-law, Jethro. Jethro reminds Moses that though he may be leading the people of God, he is not, in fact, God himself. Moses is going crazy trying to listen to everyone, and lead the people, and take care of everything, all by himself. Jethro wisely counsels him to find other elders in the community who can help him with leadership - listening to problems, sorting out issues, giving direction and counsel to the people of Israel as they make their way through the desert into the promised land.

Here at Nativity, rather than 70 elders, we have ten Ministry Teams leading us closer to the Kingdom of God. Each team is responsible for the guidance, practice, and application of a particular area of ministry. Some of these ministries are administrative, such as Buildings and Grounds, or Finance. Others are programmatic, such as Children's Ministry, or Outreach.

These teams are the way that ministry happens here at Church of the Nativity, and the most beautiful thing about them: ALL are welcome to take part!

You are invited to attend the next Ministry Team meeting night and see how it works. All the teams meet at the same time, 7 pm on the second Wednesday of the month. We gather in Corlett Hall and begin with prayer as a large group. Then each team meets for an hour and fifteen minutes to discuss current plans and action items for their ministry, then we all re-gather at 8:15 to share announcements and close the meeting with the brief evening service of Compline.

What the teams are not:

- Long and boring meetings - the meeting must end by 8:15 pm; action items are expected by end the end of the meeting for all teams.
- Committees - committees talk; Teams are active. Even if you can't come to the meeting, each team has ministries and ways for all members of Nativity to be involved in the work of the team. Teams work together to build relationships within the team and the entire parish.
- Hierarchical - the teams are an open-source organization. If you have an idea for a ministry, the team is there to support you and give you assistance, not hinder or create hoops to jump through. If you have an idea for a ministry, take it to a team and make it happen!

Over the past two years, our Ministry Teams have developed into a way for members of Nativity to support and encourage one another in creative and active ministry. You are invited to come and check them out and see if there is a ministry that speaks to your soul and your passion.

I hope to see you there.

Peace, Stephanie



*See more on Ministry Teams on pp. 9 and 10*

## Parish Life

### Pastoral Care – from your Deacon

*The Rev. David Lynch*

Sooner or later, unwelcome obstacles interrupt our journey through life. Illnesses; hospitalizations; personal or family crises; deaths – these and other hurdles bring pain and often challenge our faith. Your clergy are always here to listen, to pray with you, and to help you, with God's guidance, to find the way forward. Please always feel free to contact me, your deacon.

In addition to personal counsel (on a completely confidential basis), I would like to determine interest in forming a support group for bereavement or other crises. None of us should have to carry these burdens alone. God is with us, weeping as we weep, and we also care very much for one another. I give thanks for the support that each of us provides for the others as sisters and brothers in the family of God.

If I can help you in any way, or if you would be interested in beginning a support group, please let me know. Call me on my cell phone, 919-805-1902, or email me at [dl@nativityonline.org](mailto:dl@nativityonline.org).

God's Blessing, David



### Senior Luncheons Resume

*Gail McNally*

The September Seniors' Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, September 15, and will be hosted by Phyllis Barnwell at Relish. The restaurant is located in the shopping center at Creedmoor and Millbrook Roads. If you would like to attend, please contact Phyllis Barnwell by phone 919-876-7034; by email [phyllis.barnwell@yahoo.com](mailto:phyllis.barnwell@yahoo.com), or Tom McNally by phone 919-376-1869; by email [t24mac@nc.rr.com](mailto:t24mac@nc.rr.com). Reservations must be made by Tuesday, September 10, to insure you are included with the count that must be given to the restaurant. Reminders will be included in the *Sunday Tidings*.

Hosts are needed for October, November and December. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Tom McNally.

You don't have to be a senior to join this fun group; not all are seniors. Just make a reservation to join us in September.

### Creating a Spiritual Oasis in Downtown Raleigh

*Mike Belmares*

SPARKcon is a program of Visual Art Exchange, a Raleigh non-profit whose mission is to support emerging artists and connect the community to the arts.

SPARKcon's "creative potluck" of SPARKs or creative themes such as art, music, film, fashion, geek, circus, etc. is put together by passionate individuals who volunteer their expertise and are deeply embedded in a specific local scene. Using a combination of networking and open calls for participants, organizers create diverse and representative events to show off local talent and connect disparate creative scenes.

SPARKcon grows every time a new person gets involved with a SPARK category, creating their own event, or joining in to help an existing one. It's an open-source, "for the people, by the people" approach with an intentionally dynamic focus. SPARKcon 2013 is September 12-15.

You can see my project by going to the website: [www.sparkcon.com](http://www.sparkcon.com)> click on the tab at the top labeled "Call for Artists"> click on the link for "Spiritual Oasis." It's all there. Basically, what I'm doing is holding an exhibit at The Yoga Vault (right along Fayetteville St), which was kindly donated to me by the owner, Pam Wigington. My "call to artists" is to submit anything that is an answer to my questions: What is holy to you? What is transcendent? What is sacred? What is light? Where have you experienced "the other?" It could be art, music, a quotation, any poem, any text, sculptures, pictures. There is such a wide array of offerings that could be submitted to this Oasis.

I have two goals for this "Spiritual Oasis" exhibit: 1. to create a calm in the middle of the chaotic downtown city scene; 2. to create healthy conversation pieces over something that is so often divisive. I would love to see Nativity members submit any pieces they think help achieve these goals. I totally welcome any help getting with set up, too. Please feel encouraged to pass the word onto your friends. The more, the merrier.

Peace be with you! Contact me [mikeybooc@gmail.com](mailto:mikeybooc@gmail.com).



## Parish Life

### For your information.

*Babs Freeman, Vestry*



Dear Babsie,

I have been attending Church of the Nativity for a couple of years now and am generally quite comfortable there. I overheard some folks talking openly about some stuff I felt shouldn't be shared. Is there a problem in the church with such matters? Do I need to worry about my personal information too?

Sign me,

Private Confee Dential

Dear P.C.

The words that come to my mind regarding your concern are what is considered open information, what would be considered in bad taste to share, what is considered private information, and what is considered confidential information. I notice your nom-de-plume is military so to start from that stand-point, the old "need to know" philosophy comes to mind.

Remember, it is all fine and good to care for each other as we walk our paths towards God but we must be mindful regarding others' feelings, even in a place considered as safe as a church. It would be very proper to ask somebody you talk with, "How much of this do you want to share and with whom?" As the old axiom goes, it would be best to err on the side of caution.

If you know of any incident in which something confidential, private, or in bad taste occurred, please share it with Stephanie. If you have further concerns, please also feel free to discuss them with Stephanie.

### A Call for Acolytes

*Stephanie Allen*

The practice of young people leading worship by leading the procession with the Cross, lighting the way of the gospel with torches, and assisting the priest with preparing the Communion table has a long tradition in the Episcopal Church. All young people grades 3 and up are invited to take part in this important ministry. Acolyte training will be held Saturday, September 7 at 10:30 am and Sunday, September 8 at 12 noon for both current acolytes and new. You only need to attend one session.

Please call the church office to let us know which session you plan to attend. Questions? Call Stephanie at 919-744-1663.



### Our Hymnal and Hymn Tunes

*Waltey Rasulala, Choirmaster*

Each Sunday morning we lift our voices in song. The singing of hymns provides us with a history of the church itself, its worship and its sacred poetry. The poetry and tunes upon which many of our hymns are based go back in history as early as the 6th century. Various periods of historical time and styles of music are represented in these hymns.

The hymnal of the Protestant Episcopal Church had its inception with the Prayer Book of 1785, which was published in 1786. There were 51 hymns chosen for that publication. In today's 1989 hymnal publication there are 720 hymns. One of the outstanding characteristics of our 1982 hymnal is its inclusiveness and universality. There are over 694 hymn tunes in the 1982 Episcopal hymnal representing many religious denominations and cultures.

In the hymnal you use each Sunday, you will notice at the bottom of the page the tune names of the hymns. Many of these tunes are used as the basis of more than one hymn, depending upon which composer wrote the harmonization or arrangement.

Added recently to our weekly church bulletin are the tune names of the hymns we use on any given Sunday. Beginning on Sunday, September 8 in our service bulletin I will be highlighting the historical background of a chosen hymn for that Sunday. I hope you will enjoy reading the stories of the hymns that we sing with joy each Sunday and sometimes throughout the week.



## Christian Formation

### It's "Back to Sunday School" Time! September 8 – Be There!

*Becky Showalter*

Please plan on bringing your children to church on Sunday, September 8, for the start of our new Sunday School year. Teaching teams have been formed, lesson plans laid out and classroom locations assigned – we are READY for the beginning of a brand new school year in our Children's Education Program.

The 2013-2014 Sunday School year will see us introducing a new curriculum, **Spark Sunday School**. Included are online lesson plans, coloring pages, learner leaflets that lead teachers and youth through the lesson, and story and NRSV Bibles for the classrooms. Preschool through first grade will follow a Bible Story curriculum where the children will be introduced to a new Bible Story each week, while the 2nd-4th grade class will follow a lectionary-based curriculum that introduces the scripture they will hear in church.



Classes will be set up as follows:

Preschool (ages 3-4 years) Class, meeting at 10:30 am in Room 202 in the Education Building

Kindergarten -1st Grade Class, meeting at 10:30 am in Room 203 in the Education Building

2nd-4th Grade Class, meeting at 9:15 am in Room 203 in the Education Building

Thank you to all those who have agreed to teach Sunday School this year. As Stephanie would say, "you rock" – and we look forward to a great year! Please contact Becky Showalter with any questions at [jbshow@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbshow@bellsouth.net) or 919-845-8975.

### Youth Helpers Needed for Nursery and Preschool-1st Sunday School

*Becky Showalter*

Are you in 5th through 12th grade? Do you enjoy helping? Would you like to give back in a concrete way to our Nativity community? We are looking for youth who are interested in helping out in the nursery and/or preschool thru 1st grade Sunday School classes for the 2013-2014 school year. Depending on the number of volunteers, each youth would be scheduled once every 4-6 weeks. Nursery help would be during the 10:30 church service, if needed, and would include playing with toddlers and assisting the paid caregiver. The classes also meet during the 10:30 church service and the teachers appreciate help with calming children, helping them with craft activities, and generally assisting as needed. You're also there to help these kids have fun! So if this is you – helpful, fun, reliable – please contact Becky Showalter at [jbshow@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbshow@bellsouth.net) so she can add you to the list.

QUESTIONS? Contact a Youth Coordinator—Sally Bloom ([sallyb919@gmail.com](mailto:sallyb919@gmail.com)) re classes; Fran Kenney ([franandpatk@bellsouth.net](mailto:franandpatk@bellsouth.net)) re fundraising and Youth Group; and Jane Weinberger ([janeweinberger@nc.rr.com](mailto:janeweinberger@nc.rr.com)) re trips.



Sunday School teachers are preparing for the coming year.

### 2013-2014 Preschool through 4th Grade Sunday School Registration

*Becky Showalter*

Nativity Sunday School starts Sunday, September 8th! Please register your child(ren) at [NativityOnline.org](http://NativityOnline.org) under Education-Children or at the link below, so we know how many to plan for as well gather correct contact information. We are looking forward to a great year, and to having your family join us!

<http://nativityonline.org/education/children/>

## Christian Formation

### Youth Formation

*Sally Bloom*

**IT'S THAT TIME:** Back to Nativity! New Youth Leaders, New Youth Group, and thank heavens, SAME AWESOME LOVING GOD! Listed below is what you need to know to start you off right for Nativity's Sunday School year.

**WHEN:** First Class for all Youth: Sunday, September 8, 2013 at 9:15. NOT 9:20 or 9:25...

**WHO:** All 5th through 12th grade students.

**Fixers**—5th, 6th and 7th graders. Leaders are: Chris Chiavacci, Fran Kenney, Lori Special, and Catherine Sherrin.

**J2Aers**—8th and 9th graders. Leaders are Andy Cable, Anne Cable, Catherine Davis, and Chris Heagarty.

**Pilgrims**—10th and 11th graders: Leaders are Kellam Gaddy, Pat Kenney, and Sue Young.

**YACs**—12th graders: Leaders are Mike Belmares, Duff McAdams, and Jane Weinberger

**WHERE?** Come to the Education Building and find your classroom!

**LOOK FOR:** Emails from your leaders!

**TO KNOW:** Pilgrims are going on a field trip **THE FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL!** After church, they will go on a Team Challenge Ropes Course! Look for info from your leaders!

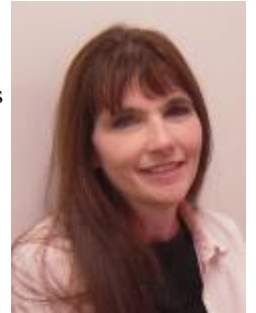
**ALSO TO KNOW:** J2Aers and Pilgrims will be raising funds

and traveling! Parents AND Youth need to support the efforts of trip coordinators and fundraising chairs. Trip Coordinators for the J2A Urban Adventure are Catherine Davis and Gail Gyurek; for the Pilgrims' Pilgrimage/Mission Trip, coordinators are Barbara Carroll and Annette Hughes. Fundraising Chairs are Michele Schneider and Patti Trainor.

**DON'T MISS: FIRST YOUTH GROUP.** While usually Youth Group will be on the Second Sunday of the month, from 5 to 7 pm, for September, we will be meeting on September 15th (**THIRD SUNDAY**). There will be **TWO**, count them **TWO** groups—middle school and high school. Leaders are Jon and Becky Showalter for High School, and Ben and Sally Bloom for Middle School.

**SHOUT OUT:** Youth Helpers Needed for Preschool-1st Sunday School

**Please register your youth for their classes! Also, complete the liability form, have it notarized, and give it to your leaders prior to any class outings. You can find both of these links at <http://nativityonline.org/education/youth/>.**



### Youth Confirmation

*Stephanie Allen*

Bishop Anne Hodges-Copple visit Nativity on Sunday, October 27. All young people age 12 and over who are ready to make an affirmation of faith and wish to be confirmed on that date are asked to contact Stephanie by September 15 to make arrangements for Confirmation preparation. Questions? Call Stephanie at 919-744-1663.

### Adult Confirmation Class: This I Believe

*Stephanie Allen*

Some say the Episcopal tradition is one of the best kept secrets of Christianity. Many people who discover the Episcopal Church as adults resonate strongly with the intertwining of faith, tradition, and reason of Anglicanism. The church offers the sacrament of Confirmation for those who wish to make an adult affirmation of their belief for this purpose. The Bishop Suffragan, the Right Reverend Anne Hodges-Copple, will visit Nativity on Sunday, October 27. All those who are interested in Confirmation, or Reception, or Reaffirmation on that day are invited to attend a four-week class with Stephanie for preparation. In this class we will explore what we have discovered about God in our adult lives, what the Episcopal Church believes, and how we share our journey of faith. The class will meet at 4:30 pm in the Conference Room of Estill House on September 22, 29, October 6, and 13. Questions? Call Stephanie at 919-744-1663. Signup sheets will be located in the Narthex, in the lobby of Estill House, you may register online, <http://nativityonline.org/education/adult/>, or by calling the church office at 919-846-8338.

## Environmental Concerns from the Teen Perspective

*All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation. 2 Cor. 5:18-19*

### Redesigning our Future Summit

*Olivia Herrick*

What did you do this summer? I was given the chance to get a taste of college. I participated in a National Environmental Summit for high school students called Redesigning our Future. It was held at Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina. While I was there, I heard from a keynote speaker and an organization about ways to help the environment, and then I also was in a focus group.

On the first day, our keynote speaker was an ordinary person who did an extraordinary thing. His name was Chad Pregracke. As a teen, his brother and he would clam in the Mississippi River. Chad saw all the garbage in the Mississippi River. He saw that it wasn't a job for just one person, so he started calling government agencies. But the problem only worsened. Then Chad decided that he would clean up the rivers. He created a non-profit organization called Living Lands & Waters, which cleans up the big rivers with help from volunteers; for example, over the past 15 years, he, his crew, and 70,000 volunteers have removed 7 million pounds of garbage from major rivers. I thought his mission was very interesting and I would like to volunteer to help him.

Secondly, I heard from the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI), an environmental organization out of Colorado. Their goal is to help the US transition off of coal, oil, and nuclear energy by 2050. During our workshops with the RMI, we learned about ways we can get involved in our community and the right ways of talking to people when telling them about issues. One type of

YOU can join these teens in their efforts on behalf of our planet by participating in 5 outreach programs (see article next page) and by attending the Environmental Ministry meeting, Tuesday, September 10 at 7 pm.

environmental activism that I feel would work in Raleigh is organizational activism. My favorite part of the whole week was my focus group. There were all types of focus groups; I was in the focus group about invasive plants and animals. We learned about the famous kudzu that was brought over to help farmers with erosion

and how it just took off. Along with kudzu came the bug that eats it; however, the bug also eats our soybean plants, once the kudzu plant stops growing. This is a problem for North Carolina farmers that grow soybeans. Our professor also told us that we could actually eat kudzu as well, but only the tips of the vine because they are softer. In our focus group we made kudzu quiche, salsa with kudzu in it, and we also deep-fried the plant.

I never would have thought that I would eat kudzu, but it is actually very tasty.

Being able to attend the Environmental Summit was an incredible opportunity for me because I plan to attend Appalachian State to study Environmental Science. The summit taught me things that I did not know that I can incorporate into my future course of study as well as my career helping the world.

<http://www.livinglandsandwaters.org>

<http://www.kudzubug.org/index.html>

<http://www.rmi.org>

<http://echorailton.com/kudzu-cookbook/>



### March for Our Planet

*Bridget Knapp*

The place to be on September 28 is the March for Our Planet. It is a worldwide day of marches, rallies, and demonstrations to ask our leaders to protect our planet. They will be led by youth but anyone can come. In Raleigh, the youth will lead a march and rally downtown. There will be signs and posters, people working for a good cause. We aren't only inspiring our leaders, but we are influencing others to follow us as we march downtown.

We need to preserve our planet for future generations. I know I want my kids to be able to go to the zoo and see lions, tigers, and bears. Oh my! These species may be gone because of human activity. Logging and habitat destruction are the main reasons that animals become extinct. Poaching and pollution are also big reasons to why animals die out. We need to make more laws to address these problems.

The March for Our Planet is supported by NC Interfaith Power and Light among others.

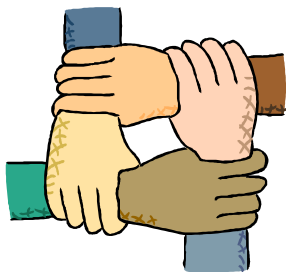
For more information, go to: <http://www.imatteryouthnc.org/>



## Outreach and Environmental Concerns

### Let's Kindle the Fire!

Carl Sigel



I don't know about you, but on Sunday August 18 as Stephanie finished her sermon based on Luke 12:49, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled", I had all I could do to keep myself from standing up, clapping, and cheering. I know others felt that way also. Perhaps, as Episcopalians we are too reserved to express ourselves in that way, but in some other denominations responses from the parishioners are more forthcoming. To me, it was a clear call to join Bishop Curry and Stephanie on the journey to Galilee, to leave our comfort zones, and venture into the world of the downtrodden and marginalized, to keep Moral Mondays alive through faith, remembering that faith is really an "action verb, as Father George has told us.

In September and early October, the Outreach Ministry team will offer everyone the opportunity to speak out and practice their faith, and even stand up and make a little noise by participating in five programs dealing with the three primary outreach themes for Nativity, environment, social justice, and hunger and poverty. The programs will be presented during the Adult Christian Formation hour from 9:15-10:15 am in Corlett Hall. Everyone is welcome.

### Adult Christian Formation

*But why do you not know how to interpret the present time?* Luke 12:56

Pete Crow and Carl Sigel

**September 8:** As part of the Faith and Ecology Forum, Marvin Maddox, a retired meteorologist, will offer a Conversation on Weather and Climate. Marvin will briefly relate how he became a meteorologist, explain climate change in a way that he thinks is easy to understand, but he mainly wants to address any questions that you may have on this complex subject.

**September 15:** In response to requests that Carl received to learn more about how the legislative process works in NC, parishioner Chris Heagarty, a lawyer and former member of the NC Legislature, will outline the legislative process and discuss how if we choose to do so, we can all be more involved. Again, there will be plenty of time for conversation.

**September 22:** Pete will facilitate a conversation on homelessness in Raleigh, particularly how Nativity as a church family might address the problem. After some preliminary insights into homelessness in our area, a representative from Wake Interfaith Hospitality Network (WIHN) will suggest some ways the Nativity congregation might engage the problem both through parish teamwork and personal involvement. WIHN partners with faith groups throughout the county to move families from homelessness to employment and a home. This session will end by trying to gauge the interest level at Nativity in this kind of ministry. So if you are interested, you won't want to miss it.

**September 29:** Class will follow up the homelessness session with considerations of relationship building across power disparity—relationships between affluent people involved in outreach and financially stressed people to whom they are reaching out. The class will begin with Pete Crow's grant-supported video-essay, "Confessions of a 21st Century Conquistador," about relationship building in Honduras. What kind of relationships can or should be formed when well-provided people are trying to help needy people? Members of the Lainez family featured in the video will join this provocative discussion.

**October 6:** Parishioner Carl Terry will welcome Angelo Maker, one of "The Lost Boys of Sudan," the 3,000 orphans who were brought to this country by the United States government in 1999-2001. Angelo will speak about his ministry, a non-profit organization named *Abukloi* (ah-Bookloy, Sudanese for "We Can!"). The mission of *Abukloi* is to build an educational and vocational training facility in Rumbek, South Sudan, that will provide essential skills and training for regional Southern Sudanese. You can read more about *Abukloi* at <http://abukloi.org>.



## Parish Life in Pictures

### Foyer

Are you thinking about what a good time you had this summer during your Foyer gatherings? Maybe your group is still working on dates to get together for the first time; maybe you've finished this round; maybe you're halfway through your group. Well, whichever it is, you'll definitely want to sign up again for the fall Foyer groups. My group is having a great time!

Not sure what this "Foyer" is? Foyer is fun...supper groups...nights (or mornings) out...the best way to meet your fellow parish members! At Nativity, we do it this way: lots and lots of people sign up during a particular month for our supper groups. Six to eight people are randomly assigned to a group, and the first name on the list gets everyone together for the initial dinner, lunch, or whatever the group wants to do. Each couple or duo takes a turn hosting the others at their home, or an agreed-upon meeting place of the group's choice.

Are there rules? NO. Are there expectations? NO. Do you have to take a quiz when you're finished? NO. Foyer just IS. Nativity has seen Foyer for more than 20 years, and it's still going strong.

Sign-up sheets will be available during September, both in the narthex and in Estill House.

If you've been in Foyer in the past, encourage others to sign up. If you haven't, do give it a try - you will definitely be glad you did.

Questions or more information: Ailsa Tessier [atessier610@gmail.com](mailto:atessier610@gmail.com) or 919-848-3364.

*Ailsa Tessier*



Above, Ailsa Tessier attends a Foyer dinner with (left to right) Ken Tessier, Ailsa, Jack Crawley, Charlie Jenkins, and Carl Sigel.



**Kudos to the Newcomers Team and other willing volunteers for giving the narthex a fresh coat of paint!**



**The Nativity Garden has fallen on hard times. From last month's lush greenery (right) to vandalism from voracious marauding herbivores (below right) who knocked down the fence, trampled the plants, ate the leaves...and left the green pepper fruits and marigolds untouched.**





# Help Wanted, Get Involved!



Fellowship follows the 10:30 service. Cookies or carrots—you choose! It's fun for everyone—and there's a special table for little kids. Want to help? See page 12 for details.



Ushers (it's not just for men) work in teams of two, handing out bulletins and helping the service flow.

## Ministry Teams and Team Leaders

- ⇒ Adult Formation: Nancy Terry
- ⇒ Buildings and Grounds: Ken Special
- ⇒ Children's Formation: Becky Showalter
- ⇒ Communications: Gail Christensen
- ⇒ Finance and Stewardship: John Oldham
- ⇒ Newcomers Ministry: Kari Marotta
- ⇒ Outreach: Jane Heyward
- ⇒ Pastoral Care: Janet Alford
- ⇒ Worship: Susie Holmes
- ⇒ Youth Formation: Sally Bloom

For more information, go to <http://nativityonline.org/who-we-are/ministry-teams/>.



Greeters welcome everyone at the door. Greeters and ushers are needed for both services. Contact Jennie in the office, 919-846-8338 or [coordinator@nativityonline.org](mailto:coordinator@nativityonline.org)

Altar Guild welcomes men, women, and children over the age of 12. Contact Brenda Johnston, [bojjohnston@gmail.com](mailto:bojjohnston@gmail.com)



## Ministry Teams

### Worship Ministry Team

*Susie Holmes, Senior Warden*

The Worship Ministry Team is looking at expanding possibilities for worship. We've explored the idea of a Saturday evening service, but have concerns over fracturing our congregation and pulling attendance from Sunday School. One idea that we're looking at is adding a bit of quiet music to the 8 am service. Come to the next ministry team meeting and share your ideas.



The next Ministries Teams meeting is  
Wednesday, September 11 at 7 pm..  
All are Welcome!

### Building/Grounds Team

*Alfred Christensen, Junior Warden*

The Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team manages most of the activities related to the exterior and interior of the Nativity buildings, A/V systems, the church IT infrastructure, etc. Most of the work is done in cooperation with the Junior Warden and a number of maintenance companies. The overall objective of the Buildings and Grounds Ministry Team is to make sure our Nativity facilities at any point in time are kept in good working condition so they provide an environmentally friendly, attractive and safe framework for the overall mission of Church of the Nativity.



The Team is responsible for soliciting proposals from vendors for new major purchases or new maintenance contracts, evaluating the proposals, and providing recommendations to the Vestry before the Vestry makes the final decision.

Many of the Team members are gifted with valuable skills that are put to good use when smaller problems need fixing right away.

Recent activities include installing motion sensors in all restrooms to conserve energy, and adding a new lock to the front door of Estill House so the building can be locked by the last person leaving the building – even if that person does not have access to a key.

If you are interested in joining us, just show up at the monthly Ministry Team meeting or send an email to the Junior Warden -

[JuniorWarden@nativityonline.org](mailto:JuniorWarden@nativityonline.org).

We welcome everyone.

### Finance and Stewardship Ministry Team

*Susie Holmes, Senior Warden*

The finance team discussed monthly profit and loss statements to better monitor the church finances. We also discussed making monthly ministry team budgets available to each vestry liaison. The vestry member can then share them with the team so that everyone is aware of the budget, how much has been spent, and how much is still available.

The stewardship team discussed the plan for kicking off our stewardship program, and specific details for implementation. We are excited about the program, and the chance to share it with the congregation.

### Pastoral Care Team

*Janet Alford*

The Pastoral Care Committee's focus is primarily towards providing care, usually in the form of meals, to members of our parish in times of need. We use the dedicated help of a team of volunteers to provide meals as they are requested. This group is working toward providing additional forms of pastoral care, most recently in the form of visitation to (elderly) parish members who are homebound or living in a senior facility. We are investigating additional areas of need where pastoral care might be useful. As a member of our clergy, Deacon David Lynch is also available for personal needs, such as dealing with elderly parents, bereavement, personal or family crises, or other issues where a member of the parish is looking for help or someone to listen. We welcome all who would like to participate in developing the means of pastoral care Nativity provides and in helping us improve in meeting those needs.



### Children's Ministry Team

*Becky Showalter*

We are a group of Nativity members that care and are interested in seeing our youngest members learn about God and Jesus, learn about being in community, and simply grow into His Love. We are responsible for issues that come up regarding nursery age children through 5th grade. Our team is a good group – we laugh a lot – but we also deal with the nuts and bolts of running a Sunday School and Nursery program that serves about 40 to 50 children. We have had a couple of members move up to the Youth Ministry Team this year, so would especially appreciate new members! Responsibilities would include attending the monthly Ministry Team meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, providing input to the team, and as you can, handling action items that need to be done. Let Becky Showalter at [jbshow@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbshow@bellsouth.net) know if you are interested, or anyone is welcome any time at our monthly meetings!



## From the Office



### Picnic Coordinators Needed

Nativity has traditionally held a parish picnic and worship in the spring or fall at Falls Lake. We are looking for two or three folks who would be willing to coordinate and plan this year's picnic to take place in October. If you are interested in being one of the coordinators, please contact Stephanie at 919-846-8338 or [sa@nativityonline.org](mailto:sa@nativityonline.org).

#### Births:

Cecily Anne Cavalier, daughter of Julia and Corey Cavalier  
Vincent Russell DiMizio, son of Katie and VJ DiMizio

#### Baptisms:

Margaux Lynn Moore, daughter of Kris and Melody Moore  
Kristopher Lee Moore  
Brent Harrison Goode, son of Anna and Brent Goode, grandson of Charly and Carolyn Kerr



*Our congregation extends its sympathy and prayers to:*

Perry Suk and her family on the death of her mother Ann Hayes

*May her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Please note: we are charged by the post office for returned mail if you change your address and do not notify the church office! Please call or email Jennie [coordinator@nativityonline.org](mailto:coordinator@nativityonline.org) with your change of address.

### Connect

- Like us on Facebook
- Follow us on Twitter @NativityOnline
- Join the Yahoo egroups email list. Log on to [www.nativityonline.org](http://www.nativityonline.org)
- Read *Glad Tidings* online, in color, at [www.nativityonline.org](http://www.nativityonline.org)

Prayer Chain: To begin a confidential prayer request, or to have names added to the Prayers of the People list for Sunday services, please contact the church office 919-846-8338. If you have an illness, hospitalization, or death in your family, please contact the church office or Stephanie directly. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Stephanie on her cell: 919-744-1663.

**Job Postings**—to receive daily job postings from Caring Connections, contact Karen Ridout at [kgr@mindspring.com](mailto:kgr@mindspring.com).



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Raleigh NC 27613

Phone: 919-846-8338  
Email office: [coordinator@NativityOnline.org](mailto:coordinator@NativityOnline.org)  
Visit us on the web at: [www.nativityonline.org](http://www.nativityonline.org)

Glad Tidings Team

Stephanie Allen  
Jennie Herrick  
Emilie Sigel  
Ailsa Tessier

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RALEIGH, NC  
PERMIT NO. 2464

## Like to have fun? Like to meet new people?

We are looking for folks interested in joining our fellowship teams. Fellowship sets out the cookies and drinks after the 10:30 am service. (Folks that attend 8 am service usually do the baking after church.) Ideally we would like to have enough folks so that we could alternate once every two months. There are cookies provided to bake (they can be baked at home or at church) and any fruit or veggies bought can be reimbursed. Some team members even like to make their own cookies and bring them on Sunday. We are usually finished on cleanup about 12:30 or so.

Generally there are 3-4 people to a team: 1-2 to make cookies, 1 to set up the table and 1-2 to help with clean-up. If you plan to be away on your Sunday, no problem—other members of teams are willing swap with you if asked. We also have a few people who are willing to be alternates and will step in if needed. It's a great



way to meet new people or re-acquaint with friends.

If you are interested in this fun experience, please contact Stephanie or Sandy Entrup, [centrup@att.net](mailto:centrup@att.net) or phone 919-420-0472 and we can meet on a Sunday and go over details.

**Sandra and Josh are on the Fellowship team. It's fun and it's easy.**

*Sandy Entrup*



**Sandy in the church kitchen plating some of her delicious home-baked cookies.**