

Glad Tidings



Our Mission

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

October 2013

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Issue No. 10-13

Flourish In Faith - Deeper, Broader and Wider

I am a big Harry Potter fan, and many times I will read something that will remind me of JK Rowling's world of witches and wizards, and friendship and love overcoming evil and despair.

We are about to begin our annual Stewardship Campaign for the coming year. Our focus and theme as we talk about stewardship and our hopes and dreams for the coming year for our parish community is "Flourish in Faith."

Now, you might read "Flourish" and think, "Thriving, living, growing..." and that is true about Nativity. I must admit to you that the first time I saw "Flourish in Faith," I thought of the bookstore in Diagon Alley where Harry and friends buy their Standard Book of Spells and others, a store called "Flourish and Blotts."

Nativity is flourishing; it is thriving, it is growing. It is a place where faith of the community is living, broadly, deeply and widely. A robust Children and Youth Ministry, active and engaged participation in Outreach, an increase in a desire for formation and education about Christianity, and the Episcopal Church, and going deeper into our spiritual lives through bible study, spiritual direction, and prayer...all these things illustrate a community that is flourishing and alive in the Holy Spirit.

But like a flourish with a pen that uses an ink well, a flourish can also indicate a desire to go above and beyond the usual standards. A flourish can be a bold or extravagant gesture, designed to attract attention.

This fall, let's use our resources to proclaim boldly the power of Christ's light in the world. Let us add a flourish to our lives of faith as we reach higher toward God's kingdom, as we go deeper into our relationship with Christ, and as we spread the word of God widely through Raleigh, through North Carolina, and through the world with our Outreach and our action.

Let's not just flourish in our faith. Let's add a flourish to who we are and what we do as followers of Jesus in a Christian worship community.

Peace,
Stephanie



"Ye watchers and ye holy ones ..."

Mary Anderson



On All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 3, we celebrate the saints and others who followed Christ in communion with God. Also, we celebrate our own belief in the "communion of saints", as our baptismal creed states. This year at Church of the Nativity, the Daughters of the King - an Anglican Lay Order for women dedicated to a life of Prayer, Service, and Evangelism - will host a Quiet Day on Saturday, November 2, which is the day for the Commemoration of All Faithful Departed. This special day in the Christian year is to remember all who have gone before and to prepare us for the celebration of All Saints' Day.

The quiet day will begin at 9 am and end at noon with the celebration of Holy Eucharist. We will gather in the sanctuary for a time of reflection and remembrance, prayer and praise for those who have died. A bell will be rung each hour and prayers will be offered, along with the reading of the names of those faithful departed. We will pray as a community and as individuals in thanksgiving for loved ones and who have died. This will be quiet time, giving each of us moments to stop, remember, reflect, and pray in whatever ways are meaningful to us. Everyone should feel free to come to the church as schedules permit, even if only for a short time.

Jesus encourages us to pray without ceasing. Come—to pray, give thanks and celebrate the lives of our saints! All are welcome.

Parish Life

Seniors' Luncheon

Gail McNally

The October Seniors' Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, October 20 at 12:30 pm. The luncheon will be hosted by Sandy and Ed Entrup at Milton's, which is located at 8853 Six Forks Road (Behind the Starbucks on Strickland Road). Milton's serves a buffet for \$9.50 plus drink and tax, or you can order off of the menu.

If you would like to attend, please contact Sandy Entrup by phone at 919-420-0472; by email at eentrup@att.net or Tom McNally by phone at 919-376-1869; by email at t24mac@nc.rr.com. Reservations must be made by Wednesday, October 16.

We look forward to seeing seniors of all ages at the luncheon. Reminders will be in the *Sunday Tidings*.

Chatty Yarns

At 10 am Wednesday mornings you can find a friendly group in the parlor, chatting, knitting, crocheting, making hats and scarves for the homeless—or working on various yarn projects. Need a restful break in your day? This is the place to be. All are welcome.



Christmas in October?

Jennie Herrick

Of course not, but it's time to order your greens and poinsettias for the holiday. It is indeed strange to think about ordering a Christmas tree so early in the year, but believe it or not, Christmas is right around the corner! We receive our greens from a family-owned tree farm in Western North Carolina, and as we place our orders, they tag the very best trees they have and then deliver them to us in early December. The prices are actually lower than area tree lots, and the quality is excellent. In fact, the trees are cut just days before they're delivered to us.

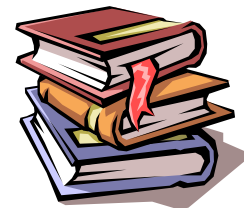
This year, the greens and flower sales will benefit the J2A and the Pilgrims groups (our 8th through 11th graders), as they prepare for their trips next summer. You can help our youth by ordering your tree, wreaths, pine garland, and poinsettias from Nativity this year. You will find an order form enclosed in this issue of *Glad Tidings*, which you may mail to the church office, or you may place your order with our youth on Sundays in October after each service.



Book Discussion Group

Barbara Renfrew

Noon Books study group meets every Wednesday, at 12 noon in the Garden Room-Café at Springmoor Retirement Home on Sawmill Road. We discuss the Bible and related books. Come join us. Any questions? Call Jennie in the church office, or Barbara Renfrew at 919-848-7535.



The Vest Tree

Babs Freeman, Vestry member



There are many different kinds of trees. Pine, oak, and maple are common but there is one known as the Vest Tree. The tree is unique in that it does not shed leaves in the autumn, but instead releases the older leaves when newer ones start to sprout. The leaves come in a variety of shades and vest-like shapes, some even have folds resembling lapels. The tree bears fruit which is sweet to some folks and not so sweet to others, but always productive.

The bark's texture is made of small pebble like pieces so that if one should fall out, the tree can survive. Like all trees, it is resilient and can bend with the wind. The entire makeup of the tree comes together nicely benefiting the whole. It gains strength from elements around it as well as basking in the light of the Son.

Many gaze at the tree in wonder due to its uniqueness but few dare to approach it for a closer look. Someday soon, some of you will be invited to sit among its branches. Please accept the invitation without anxiety, for the tree will support you and you will, in turn, grow from the experience.

Parish Life

Facelift for the Narthex - Phase Two

Sue Young

The narthex got a fresh coat of paint over the summer and now the bright sunny walls are calling for a few furnishings to round out the facelift. We have a very limited budget and are looking for creative ideas to create a welcoming warm space. Please consider helping out with this project - contact Sue Young, oldham8616@aol.com, if you are interested in joining our makeover team.

Toddlers, Toddlers, Everywhere!

Becky Showalter



What a wonderful problem to have – our church has attracted so many new young families that there are enough little ones in the Nursery (on a regular basis!) that we really need a second set of adult hands to help our paid caregivers during the 10:30 service. Parents of these little ones are welcome to volunteer, but often, church is a

needed break for them from the craziness of caring for small children! We would love to fill a rotating volunteer roster with other adult volunteers! So . . . do you attend the 8 o'clock service and wouldn't mind holding a baby for an hour or so at the next service, or attend the 10:30 service and would enjoy reading books to babbling two year olds once



every couple of months instead of going to the service?? If so, we need you!

Please contact Becky Showalter at jbshow@bellsouth.net for more information or to volunteer. Thanks!



To All Florally-Inclined

Emilie Sigel

Do you notice or admire the flowers at our altar on Sundays? We do not purchase these arrangements from a florist. We have a Flower Guild, women (men are welcome too) who take turns preparing these floral arrangements from garden blooms or purchased flowers. The flowers are paid for by donations made in honor of, or memory of, a loved one, by



members of the congregation. There is a sign-up sheet for this in the Estill House hallway.

Does this topic interest you? Would you like to work alongside a Flower Guild team member to observe and perhaps participate in the process? Contact Emilie Sigel, 919-847-4252 or eseagull@aol.com, or Ailsa Tessier, 919-848-3364 or atessier610@gmail.com.



Become a Part of Church History

Ailsa Tessier

Church of the Nativity parishioners have long enjoyed some terrific programs, one of which is Foyer. Foyer is Nativity's version of supper groups, randomly-assigned groupings of 6-8 people who gather to enjoy each other's company and a meal together. There's no obligation, or right or wrong way to enjoy Foyer - it's completely up to the group to decide. Each couple or single will host a meal, usually in your own home; again, it's up to you.

The time to sign up for fall foyer is NOW - assignments will be made by October 10. Fall Foyer covers October, November, and December. Then we do it all over again in the spring. ALL are welcome, and ALL are encouraged to meet new friends and get reacquainted with old ones - Foyer is the best way to do it!

Email Ailsa Tessier, atessier620@gmail.com, or call 919-848-3364 with questions.

Stewardship

“Flourish In Faith” - Step by Step

Stephanie Allen

1. On October 6, receive your family's pledge packet after church.
2. Take the pledge packet home. ~~Add it to the pile of mail and bills that need your attention at some point.~~ Open the pledge packet, take the pledge card out, and place it somewhere visible that will remind you to start praying about what contribution you might make to Nativity in 2014.
3. Sit down and read the “Flourish In Faith” bulletin insert from Sunday's worship. Continue to take time to read the inserts that will be coming each week.
4. Discuss with your spouse/partner/significant other the contribution you would like to make. Look at what you gave last year - could you increase it by a percentage? If you didn't give last year, prayerfully consider where you might start.
5. Pray about the contribution. (Ideally, pray with that other person.)
6. If you have questions, or need more information, ask someone who knows about this stuff. (Contact information below, and they will be at church on Sundays.)
- ~~7. Forget about it until you see the panicked notice in Sunday bulletin from the Stewardship Team.~~
7. After time of thought and prayer, fill out the pledge card and bring it to church and place it in the offering plate; or mail it in; or go on-line and complete the card via the web-page. (Please do this step before November 10.)
8. Celebrate! You just took a significant step in your spiritual journey!
9. Receive a nice “Thank You” note from the Vestry. Enjoy the warm and gracious feeling of knowing you have made a difference in your faith community. (Note: the Vestry member who writes the note won't know how much you pledge, only that you did so.)

Whom to contact with questions:

- Stephanie Allen, Rector, sa@nativityonline.org
- Susie Holmes, Senior Warden, sch123@nc.rr.com
- Ken Jenkins, Vestry member for Finance/Stewardship Team, kjenkins@issretail.com
- John Oldham, Team Leader, Finance/Stewardship Team, joldham8616@gmail.com



Tithing and Pledging (don't be scared - it's just some definitions)

Michael Allen, on behalf of the Stewardship Team

As the Church of the Nativity begins its 2014 stewardship campaign, “Flourish in Faith,” there will be many opportunities for us to discern (both introspectively, and in community) where we are on our personal giving journey. Here are a few pieces of information that might help you frame your discernment over the next few months.

In 1982, the Episcopal Church affirmed the tithe as the minimum standard of giving for Episcopalians. This resolution was reaffirmed at General Convention in 2009, and interestingly, included a call for the members of each House to declare (publicly or anonymously) that they were tithing, or firmly committed to tithing within five years. There are many resources online to give more insight into the why of this affirmation, but this one, by Presiding Bishop John Allin (1982), is quite uplifting, “When offered in thanksgiving, tithing continues to be an affordable, affirming, and reassuring experience of and in the faith that is gracious and the Grace that is faithful.”

Since the affirmation of the tithe as a minimum standard for Christian giving, the Church has always acknowledged that we are all at different places in our spiritual journey. **The practice and discipline of regular giving is more important than the amount itself.** Giving to God and God's work gladly is an important part of our spiritual journey. To help us strengthen that practice and discipline, proportional giving is a useful tool to discover. Consistent and deliberate increases in proportional

giving allows time to discern God's call in our hearts, time to reflect on our spiritual journey, and time to organize our financial lives to be consistent with that call and that journey. A recommended starting point is often a 1/2 tithe or a 1/4 tithe, (5% or 2.5% of one's income) looking to increase each year by 1-2% of income each year on a journey to a full tithe.

The second idea is that of the pledge. The pledge is nothing more than a declaration - that same declaration called for at convention in 2009. There are two reasons why we ask for a formal pledge at Nativity. The first is obvious: it empowers the leadership of the church to manage our finances responsibly as we bring the Word of Christ into the world. The second is to foster our spiritual growth. **A declaration (or a pledge if you will) is a powerful statement of who we are and in what we believe.** I am reminded of the many Baptisms we celebrated as a community in the past few months. We did not sit back quietly and watch the ceremony up front and think happy thoughts in our head. We stood up with our new brothers and sisters in Christ, and declared our support, loudly and with vigor.

As Episcopalians, we believe in working toward a tithe, and reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity. As members of Nativity, we declare ourselves with vigor and purpose, formalizing our pledges joyously - it is one of the ways we “Flourish in Faith.”

Music at Nativity

Spirituality in the Arts' Series Begins

Vocal Concert to Open



A concert of the music of Mozart, Schubert, Duparc, Bellini, Donaudy and Kandar will open the 2013-2014 *Spirituality in the Arts* season on Sunday, October 6 at 4 pm. Lyric Soprano Karine Eva Marshall, a former member of Church of the Nativity, will present this program of Italian, German, French and English art songs. She will be accompanied by her husband, Calvin Marshall.

Karine is an accomplished vocalist of operas, musicals, recitals and sacred music. She has performed and covered roles in the Broadway musicals "Oklahoma," "Hello Dolly" and "Annie Get Your Gun" in Europe, the Far East, and the United States. Last October she was the soprano soloist for the performance of Bach's "Ein' feste Berg ist unser Gott" presented with the combined choirs of Church of the Nativity and St. Michael's Episcopal Church. Join us!

Aurora Musicalis Presents "Quartet for the End of Time"

On November 3 at 4 pm *Spirituality in the Arts* will feature a work by French composer Olivier Messiaen, "Quartet for the End of Time," presented by Raleigh's own illustrious chamber group, Aurora Musicalis. This group is made up of members of the North Carolina Symphony and was founded by former Principal Clarinetist Jimmy Gilmore and Associate Principal Cellist Elizabeth Beilman. It also includes Concert Master Brian Reagin and pianist John Noel. Jimmy and Elizabeth are members of Church of the Nativity.



Messiaen's "Quartet for the End of Time" was composed for the instruments he had on hand while interned in a German prison camp during World War II, a violin, a cello, a clarinet and a piano. The work is based on the Book of Revelation passage in chapter 10 about the descent of the seventh angel at the sound of whose trumpet the mystery of God will be consummated and "there should be time no longer."

A pre-concert lecture will be held from 3:15 to 3:45 pm.

We welcome the opportunity to present this mystical work with the creative talents of these musicians. This November *Spirituality in the Arts* event should not be missed.

National Recognition for Church of the Nativity

Jason Pace, organist

The American Institute of Organbuilders (AIO) is coming to Nativity to see our pipe organ. This month the 40th Annual Convention of the American Institute of Organbuilders is meeting in Winston-Salem. As part of the convention, members of AIO are visiting significant instruments in the area. Approximately 75 organ builders from all over North America will board buses to Raleigh to see and hear three instruments in the area.

Church of Nativity was chosen to be showcased for the convention due to the unique situation of an exceptionally high quality instrument found in a modest sized parish. Many churches the size of Church of the Nativity would like to have an instrument like ours, but can't imagine how that could be possible. Church of Nativity is a model for modest size parishes that desire a beautiful pipe organ to lead in worship.

Our organ is the result of a faith-inspired vision, carried out by dedicated and generous parishioners working with one of the finest organ builders in the country. Church of Nativity was able to acquire the 20-stop Andover Organ by dividing the purchase of the organ into a two-phased acquisition. The instrument we have today is the result of the completion of the first phase in 2007 which includes 12 stops. The second phase, which includes acquisition of the remaining eight stops to complete the design, is to be realized at some time in our future.

The Andover Organ company will host a presentation and concert to AIO members at 2 pm on October 10. If you are interested in attending, please speak with Waltye Rasulala, choir director, or Jason Pace, organist.



Bells Ring Again at Nativity

Bell choir practice is once again in session. Under the leadership of director Ruth Brown, member of the renowned Raleigh Ringers, the choir is preparing music for upcoming worship services.

Can you read music? Can you count? Do you enjoy being with an enthusiastic group of folks who love to play together? If yes, bell choir might be for you. Contact Ruth Brown, ruthannemayer@gmail.com.

Christian Formation

Preschool through 5th Grade Sunday School Update

Becky Showalter

What a great start to the Sunday School year we have had! Thanks to all who brought their kids to the first several classes and filled out registration cards. We have had over 40 students attend our Preschool-5th Grade classes – it’s wonderful to have that kind of energy and participation! Keep it up!

As a parent, I’m always interested in what my kids are learning and when I ask, I usually get answers like “stuff” and “nothing” and “here’s my craft.” So this year we will continue to try and keep you up to date on what’s going on. Note that we have begun publishing in the *Sunday Tidings* (the Sunday announcements) the topic for each class – be sure to take a look and then bring it up with the kids. We will also send out informational emails as needed regarding these classes.

What The Young Ones are Studying

Becky Showalter

Preschool Class and the Kindergarten-1st Grade Class:

Using the Spark Sunday School Curriculum and meeting during the 10:30 service in the Education Building, these classes focus on the colorful characters of the Old Testament through fun learner leaflets, games, group play, crafts and more.

September 22	Joseph and His Brothers
September 29	Joseph Helps His Family
October 6	Baby Moses
October 13	The Burning Bush
October 20	Manna, Quail and Water
October 27	God Calls Samuel

2nd-4th Grade Class:

Meeting at 9:15 am in the Education Building, this class uses the Lectionary version of the Spark Sunday School Curriculum. These lessons will center on our daily lectionary readings (the bible passages read in church), and our hope is that this exposure to the lessons in class will help the students connect to what is being said in church at the 10:30 service. Outside of class, they will look for ways to put into action the call to be God’s hands in the world by participating in different outreach projects. Look for information coming home soon.

September 22	Two Masters
September 29	The Parable of the Rich Man
October 6	A Seed of Faith
October 13	Ten Men Healed
October 20	A New Covenant

Adult Christian Formation

Nancy Terry

In October, there are the following opportunities for learning and sharing at 9:15 am.

October 6: Angelo Maker, one of “The Lost Boys of the Sudan,” will share about his ministry through an organization name Abukloi (ah-Boo-kloy, Sudanese for “We Can!”). This organization is working to build an educational and vocational training facility in Rumbek, South Sudan.

October 13: Vestry Open Forum

October 20: Conversation with Bishop Suffragan, Ann Hodges-Copple

October 27: A four week series on “Women of the Fourth Gospel” begins, facilitated by Carolyn Edge, Spiritual Director. She will explore Jesus’ mother at the wedding at Cana, the Samaritan woman at the well, and Mary Magdalene at the tomb. By taking a fresh look at an Old Testament story, using current research by feminist theologians, and incorporating the history of the Jewish people during the exiles, we will discover a new interpretation of the roles these women played in the life and ministry of Jesus.



Christian Formation

Spark Sunday School – Activate Faith

Becky Showalter

The 2013-2014 Sunday School year has seen us introduce a new curriculum, Spark Sunday School. It is a comprehensive, Bible-based Sunday School designed for children age 2 to grade 6. And that's Bible-based in the good way! All students will spend time getting out their Bibles during each lesson. Preschool through first grade use an illustrated story Bible, while the 2nd through 4th grade use full NRSV Spark Bibles. The 2nd through 4th graders are even encouraged to write in their Bibles marking things they don't understand or that they particularly like. We hope this introduction to the Bible as something approachable and real will last a lifetime! Also included in this curriculum are online lesson plans, coloring pages, videos for the teacher that explain the main points of the story or scripture, and learner leaflets that lead teachers and youth through the lesson. As excited as we are, it is still a transition time – please be patient with us as we adjust to the new curriculum!

Don't forget! Register your child for Sunday School at <http://nativityonline.org/education/children/>.



Outreach and Environmental Concerns

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Col. 1:17



The next meeting of Environmental Stewardship at Nativity is on Tuesday, December 10 at 7 pm.

All are welcome.

US-Uganda Orphans Education Fund Update

Barbara Kanya

The US-Uganda Orphans Education Fund (UUOEF) organization provides educational scholarships to children in Uganda who have been orphaned by AIDS. The organization is an outgrowth of the Uganda Mission outreach program started several years ago at the Church of the Nativity with support from St Peter's Episcopal Church in Albany, New York.

Currently, we have 5 high school students in our program. All have been with us since completing middle school. In Uganda, post primary education is not free. We are hoping to add more students after a trip to Uganda early next year if funding is available.

Recently, we received correspondence from Scovia Kiconco, a recent college graduate and one of our past students in our scholarship program. She wrote to express the joy she felt about her impending graduation in October from Gulu University in Uganda with a BS degree in agriculture. This is a dream come true for her and she wanted to again express her gratitude for our assistance. She knows she would not have been able to continue her secondary education without help from UUOEF. Her university education was funded through a very competitive government scholarship. Some of you may will remember several years ago when Scovia wrote us a letter, excerpts of which were published in *Glad Tidings*, expressing her sincere gratitude for our assistance.



Scovia Kiconco

Resilient Congregations

Carl Sigel

August 20, 2013 was Earth Overshoot Day. On this day for the current year, according to the Global Footprint Network, an international think tank, humanity's demand for natural resources exceeded the Earth's ability to renew them in a year. While there are many uncertainties in making an approximation like this, the unsettling message is that humanity is exceeding the carrying capacity of the Earth. The natural reaction to news like this is to think that scientists and economists need to deal with these disturbances and find a way for the world to adapt and return to a sustainable state. But, historically hasn't the church guided by the Holy Spirit been a source for this kind of transformation? What is often lacking when secular society addresses these situations is the moral component.

In his wonderful sermon on September 15 (you can go to the Nativity website to listen to it,) I think Dan Laird, when he called us all into community and asked us to think beyond ourselves, was saying we need to have a role in addressing crises like this. A congregation that can respond to challenges is a "resilient congregation." I use responding to an ecological problem here simply as an example; the challenge could just as well be an economic or social justice issue. Let's all work together to make Nativity a resilient congregation. If we do so, I think we will be a much stronger and relevant faith community.

Hunger Action Month

Carol Smith and Carolyn Kerr

September is Hunger Action Month. Thanks to an outpouring of donations it has been amazing! We have collected eighty pounds of food thus far this month. Let's try to triple that amount by September 30 by making the last Sunday the BEST EVER!

Suggested items for donation include: canned meals, peanut butter, tuna, canned vegetables, canned fruits, 100% juice and juice boxes, rice, pasta, dried beans, granola bars, popcorn, graham crackers animal crackers, fat-free/sugar free pudding cups, diapers, wipes, formula, infant cereal, hygiene items, toilet paper, napkins, tissues.



Outreach and Environmental Concerns

Coupon Helpers - Expired (but still shopping)

Michael Allen

After nine months, we are bringing the Coupon Helpers program to a close. Thanks to all who participated, by bringing in coupon circulars, using our clipped coupons to buy on-sale items for the Interfaith Food Shuttle and Backpack Buddies, or by taking 300 pounds of food collected down to the Shuttle's facility.

A huge number of people responded to the clipped coupons aspect of the program and many, many brought in spare circulars, but we were unable to achieve critical mass to maintain the organization and prep of these programs on an ongoing basis, so the team concluded that this ministry had run its course. We are ending with the current Food Drive for Hunger Action Month.

A few of us in the program tracked our savings and gave half of those savings to combat poverty and hunger, either through direct monetary donations to area food banks or programs, or for the purchasing of grocery store gift cards for Stephanie to give to those in need. These clippers are continuing this personal aspect of the program until the end of the year and will have raised over \$1,200 for this effort.

Think about that...

That means these clippers (and there were only a handful) saved a total of \$2,400 on their food bill this year by shopping the sales and using coupons to stretch their grocery budgets.

Most reported that they spent an extra hour or two per week preparing their lists and coupons to achieve these savings. Some even avoided any processed food items when they shopped (a common complaint of coupon nay-sayers is that

there are never healthy items available, but there is always some way to save - either through household items like detergent, light bulbs, toilet paper, to personal care items like deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, and even basic foods like milk, cheese, frozen vegetables, baking supplies, coffee and tea).

If you could spend 90 minutes a week to save \$60 - \$150 per month on your grocery bill, would you do it? That is a return of \$10-\$25 per hour. If every family at Nativity saved only \$60 a month, and used half to combat poverty and hunger, as a congregation we would be able to put more than \$79,000 of found money (really - you cut it out of the Sunday paper!) per year toward fighting hunger and poverty.

If you don't coupon, consider it.

If you do coupon, keep it up! You could even become an extreme clipper.

If you have been bringing in extra circulars, please continue to do so. Anyone who coupons is welcome to help themselves to an extra circular or two each week to help with their personal couponing journey.



Eighty pounds of shelf-stable food donated by Nativity members on its way to the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle.

Honduras Pill Packing

Pete Crow

The annual pill packaging for the Honduras Health Mission takes place at Church of the Nativity, Monday, October 14, at 6 pm in Corlett Hall. The packaging normally takes about two hours, and we hope you will come. In addition to being an important part of mission preparation, the pill packaging is a great social, family, Sunday school class event accessible to everyone in the congregation who can count to twenty. Wraps, snacks, and drinks will be available (thanks to the Kerrs), so there is no need for dinner before coming. Nancy Titus and Carolyn Kerr, will have the whole operation efficiently organized.

The Honduras Health Mission reaches from deep in the heart of Church of the Nativity (member Peggy Wade started it in the 1990s) to deep in the heart of Central America (the United Communities of El Corpus, Honduras, are five hours from the nearest airport or adequate hospital). Church of the Nativity is involved in the entire cycle of the mission, from raising money for supplies, to packing supplies, to staffing part of the mission team (this year Steve Gordon, Evelyn Judson, and Pete Crow), to reporting back on the evolving relationship.

In preparation for the January 10-19 mission, Church of the Nativity is also collecting Selsun Blue (10 bottles), Ben-Gay tubes (10), and brown lunch bags (up to 700). The only personal items we are collecting this year are soap (not body wash), shampoo, lotion, toothbrushes and toothpaste (no creme rinse). Non-returnable suitcases with wheels are always welcome, especially those capable of carrying 50 pounds of supplies.

Please turn in items you would like to contribute at Estill House on Sunday, October 13.



Ministry Teams

In the September issue of Glad Tidings Stephanie wrote about the Ministry Teams at Nativity, how they work, what they are NOT, what to expect at a gathering of the teams. On page 10 of that issue there were articles introducing some of the teams by members of those teams. Here you can read about four more teams. All are invited to come to a ministry team meeting, check it out, see what fits your personal ministry.

Youth Ministry Team

Sally Bloom

Bullying. Death. Acceptance. Life. Sex. God. Hell. Drugs. Heaven. Forgiveness. Racism. Environmentalism. Consumerism. Love. Pilgrimage. Service. Homelessness. Hunger. Jesus. The topics covered in our youth program are real. Some 60 young people come to Nativity every week, and every week caring, concerned, and sometimes mystified adults travel with them through the middle and high school years helping them grow into adults who know of God's everlasting love for them, and the call of that love to act in the world. The Youth Ministry Team supports the youth and the 25 adults who volunteer with these young people. We establish the framework that undergirds the program and allows it to flourish. Ultimately we hope to have a Youth Minister who can use our work as a jumping off place to both sustain and strengthen Nativity's commitment to our young people. Join us! Contact Sally Bloom, sallyb919@gmail.com for more information.

Outreach Ministry Team

Carl Sigel

Sunday morning service isn't the only way to pray. We live our faith by serving others. Rolling up our sleeves is one way of getting down on our knees. Outreach at Church of the Nativity involves a range of programs touching needs at the community, national, and international levels. Some of the programs grow out of long and deep roots at Nativity, while others are brand new. Fresh ideas are always welcome, and we strive to make Outreach at Nativity as intergenerational as possible. The Outreach Ministries Team oversees selection by the parish of an Outreach theme for a three-year period, around which to focus our four educational and participatory Outreach events, such as an Outreach Fiesta or a Day of Giving. The current theme is "hunger and poverty", but we are also heavily involved in environmental and social justice issues. A complete list of current Outreach ministries can be found on the Nativity website.

Communications Ministry Team Shares the Good News

Becky Christian

The Communications Ministry Team is all about information—making sure that members, visitors and casual seekers know about the church, its mission, programs, plans and dreams and can use that information to enhance faith, worship and community. Since the team began, they have adopted an updated church logo, produced church membership directories, participated in the campus signage improvement project, overhauled the Nativity website, worked on ways to record sermons, established Nativity's presence on Facebook and Twitter, advised on sound systems for the facility, developed roadside banners to promote upcoming events and responded to requests for communication assistance from other teams, members and staff. Now the team is developing communication and identity guidelines for Nativity and templates to help other church communicators. Join if you, like the team, want everyone to know more about our energized, warm and welcoming Church of the Nativity.

The next meeting of the Ministry teams is Wednesday, October 9 at 7 pm. All are welcome.

Newcomer Ministry Team

Sue Young, Vestry member

The Newcomer Ministry Team focuses on providing a warm welcome to our visitors, helping them to get to know who we are and, ultimately to incorporate them into our community. We also seek new ways to draw folks into our community that they might find a spiritual home at Nativity. We have put quite a few processes in place to capture and track our visitors but we are always open to new ideas. We rely on the welcoming presence of our fellow parishioners and ask that you encourage visitors to meet the clergy and to fill out a pew card so we can follow up with them. Our work is never done and we can always use more hands and minds with this ministry. Contact me at 919-848-1745, oldham8616@aol.com

From the Office

Meet our Bishop Suffragan

On October 20, newly consecrated Bishop Suffragan Anne Hodges-Copple will visit Nativity and celebrate the Eucharist and Confirmation with us. A Bishop Suffragan is an assisting Bishop, and in her new role, Bishop Hodges-Copple will assist Bishop Curry in leading the Diocese into Galilee by focusing especially on ministry in higher education, young adult ministry, ministry among Spanish-speaking communities, the ordination process for the diaconate, companion diocese relationships with Costa Rica and Botswana, ecumenical and interfaith work and pastoral care of retired clergy and their spouses. Be sure to come to church on Sunday, October 20 to meet our new Bishop Suffragan.



We say farewell and blessings to the following families:

Chuba, Emmanuela, Chinemenma, and Nnamdi Udokwu who have relocated to Massachusetts
Kathy and Jim Von St. Paul who have moved to St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Hillsborough

Baptisms

Gracie Ann Feraco
Kaylee Lynne Smith



Our congregation extends its sympathy and prayers to:

The Rev. Jim Lewis on the death of his wife Judy Lewis
Barbara Kamyra on the death of her cousin Gladiola Argiannis
Mary Anderson on the death of her cousin Kraig McConnell

*May their souls, 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 with your change of address.

Connect

- Like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/nativityonline>
- Follow us on Twitter @NativityOnline
- Join our email group. Log on to <http://nativityonline.org/community/keep-informed/>
- Read *Glad Tidings* online, in color, at 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.



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Glad Tidings Deadline

November 2013 Issue

Deadline: MONDAY (note day change!)

October 21 at noon

Mailing date: October 30

Send articles to

gladtidings@nativityonline.org

Episcopal Campus Ministry: What It Is

Perry Schneider

If you sent any young men or women off to college this year, did you remind them to search for a welcoming place to continue their Christian worship? Did you know to ask them to check for an Episcopal Campus Ministry (ECM) for not only worship but much more?

Well, here in our area of NC, there are currently eight ECMs and two ecumenical campus ministries supported by our Diocese. You can find a list of these campus ministries on the Diocesan web site. There is also a link to campus ministries nationwide on the site. The local Raleigh ECM is near NC State. The Raleigh ECM serves all university/college campuses in the Raleigh area. Carl Terry and I currently sit on the board of advisors to the Raleigh ECM chaplain, Rev. Deborah Fox. You may have seen her (or the Bishop!) around the Brickyard. See ecm-raleigh.dionc.org/digital_faith/news/3158226 for more about the included picture from a student's perspective.

The Raleigh ECM has welcomed a lot of new freshmen from across the state and a few parts elsewhere to campus this fall semester. What these new ECMers will find is spiritual formation through worship, retreats, Bible study, theological discussion, and discernment of vocations. ECM makes a difference in the world by educating students on Christian stewardship of the earth and its resources, and issues of poverty and racism and then taking action by serving in soup kitchens, and other services for

those, who are homeless, and those in poverty. We take pride in our Raleigh ECM as an inclusive, welcoming Eucharistic community "making disciples who make a difference" on campuses and in the world. This is most recently evidenced by the change of one ECMer's major to Social Justice and another's internship in Washington D.C. helping the poor find housing assistance.

The Raleigh ECM is supported by the Diocese with supply of the chaplain but requires program, worship, building and grounds, student life and enrichment, supplies, and utilities funding from local parishes and individuals. Nativity has helped support this ministry with funding and the provision of home cooked meals for post Eucharist Sunday dinner

So, about a month in, the students should be settled in academically. Where are they spiritually?

