

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Join us for a Homecoming Sunday celebration on Sep. 13 at Church of the Nativity! After the 10:30 am service, enjoy good food, fun, and fellowship as we kick off a new season of busy programming and ministry. It's a great opportunity to connect with old friends, meet new ones, and learn more about the many ministries that make Nativity such a vibrant community. More details to come - stay tuned!

NEW VENDOR REQUEST FORM

Thank you to all of the volunteers and ministry teams who give their time and energy to make Nativity's life and ministry possible! To help streamline purchases and communication, we've created a Vendor Request Form for all ministry-related purchases. All requests must be reviewed and approved by staff and/or Vestry before a purchase is made. The office will follow up with confirmation once your request has been reviewed. Thank you for helping us make this process easier, more transparent, and more efficient for everyone!

ACOLYTES WANTED

Are you currently an acolyte? Have you considered being an acolyte but have questions? The NC Diocese is holding the 2026 Acolyte Festival on October 17th from 9:30-3:30 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Winston Salem. Acolytes and prospective acolytes of all ages will deepen their understanding of worship through hands-on workshops covering vestments, sacred objects, altar serving, processions, and special services such as Holy Week, baptisms, confirmations and episcopal visitations.

There is a \$10 registration fee for each participant. Financial support is available. Please contact Lisa Aycock, missionary for youth discipleship, to request a scholarship or raise any questions. Please reach out to Sarah O'Connor if you are interested.

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY

A new Sunday morning book study will begin Sep. 13–Oct. 4 from 9:30–10:20 am in Curry Hall, Room 204. James Casler will lead as we read and discuss *Lord Teach Us-The Lord's Prayer & the Christian Life*. We'll explore The Lord's Prayer phrase by phrase and look at this familiar prayer in a whole new way. Copies of the book are available in the Narthex.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: A FOYER ADVENTURE

Meet new friends or reconnect with the community at Nativity by joining Foyer! Groups of 4–5 gather monthly from September–December to share a meal. Whether you cook, host, or order in, the focus is fellowship in a relaxed setting. Families can also join through Family Foyer, if sufficient interest. Sign up by emailing Gail Till and indicate Foyer or Family Foyer. Assignments will be shared the last week of August.

YOUTH FORMATION SCHEDULE

MIDDLE SCHOOL

We are excited to welcome our Middle School Youth back with a regathering breakfast in Curry Hall Room 204 on Sunday, September 13 during their formation time of 9:50-10:20 am. Come meet friends new and old and get ready for a new program year. Middle School Youth will explore a gospel-based lesson cycle this year that aligns with the lectionary beginning on Sunday, Sep. 20.

HIGH SCHOOL

We are excited to welcome our High School Youth back with a regathering dinner on Sunday, September 27 (time and location TBA). Come meet friends new and old and get ready for a new program year. High School Youth will continue to meet regularly on Sunday Nights throughout the autumn. A full calendar for the year will be linked in an upcoming message.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

- 9:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with Music
- 9:30 am Blessing of the Backpacks
- 11 am Caregivers support group (Curry Hall 202)
- 11 am SUSO Monthly Meeting (Corlett Hall)

The Church of the Nativity has a long history of prioritizing outreach! Please use the above QR code below to view a list of the various ministries we either support or run ourselves. These are just introductions into these programs. If you would like to learn more or if you would like to reach ministries, please Taylor Wolfe, co-chairs



get involved with outreach contact Beth Crow and of the Outreach Team.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLING ALL LAITY AND CLERGY

The Diocese of North Carolina is beginning a process of discernment and celebration that will lead to the election and consecration of our 13th Bishop of North Carolina. This work involves the whole Body of Christ — not just the clergy — and you are invited to participate! **Applications are now open to serve on either the Search Committee or Transition Committee and will be accepted through Aug. 25.** Visit the diocesan website to learn more.

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THE DAILY BREAD VIRTUAL EVENING BOOK STUDY

Join us every Wednesday at 7 pm EST beginning Sep. 9 for a meaningful and thought-provoking book study as we explore *Take This Bread* by Sarah Miles. Together, we'll reflect on faith, community, hospitality, and the transformative power of sharing a meal and sharing our lives.

Meeting ID: 875 2367 9170; **Passcode:** 435241

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Join us this **Sunday, Aug. 23** during our Holy Eucharist for a Back-To-School Blessing of the Backpacks! All students — from Pre-K to PhD — are invited to bring their backpacks for a special blessing as we begin a new school year. During the service, we will offer students a prayerful start to the new school year and a special backpack tag to remind them of God's love and our community's support throughout the year.

RALEIGH EPISCOPAL CAMPUS MINISTRY

Raleigh Episcopal Campus Ministry (ECM) is a welcoming Episcopal community for students from NC State, Meredith, Wake Tech, and other local colleges. Led by Rev. Caleb Tabor, ECM offers weekly worship, small groups, retreats, and fellowship opportunities for students. Church of the Nativity proudly supports ECM through meals, financial contributions, and parish representation on the ECM Board. To learn more, email outreach@nativityonline.org or follow [@ecmraleighnc](https://www.instagram.com/ecmraleighnc) on Instagram.

LAST SUNDAY FOR LECTIONARY DIVINA

This Sunday is the final week of our summer Lectionary Divina before we transition into fall adult spiritual formation programming. Join us Sunday, Aug. 23 at 10:45 a.m., following the 9:30 a.m. worship service, for a time of reflective, discussion-based engagement with one or more of the day's lectionary readings.

STAND UP SPEAK OUT GROUP MONTHLY MEETING

Please join us this **Sunday, Aug. 23 immediately following service** for our next group meeting in Corlett Hall. Bring a snack to share! We will start with prayer, then a check in with everyone on how they are feeling, and then move into our topic of the month. We'll finish with upcoming opportunities to engage. Let's build our resilience and determination to make change together!

CAREGIVERS MONTHLY MEETING THIS SUNDAY

All are welcome to join the Caregivers Support Group immediately following service **THIS Sunday, Aug. 23** in Curry Hall 202. Whether you are currently caring for a loved one or have experience to share, we would love to hear from you. Join us for conversation, encouragement, and support as we walk this journey together. Please contact Emily Phillips with any questions.

PACK MEALS + FIGHT HUNGER

Nativity's 14th annual Rise Against Hunger (RAH) intergenerational meal-packaging event will take place in Corlett Hall on **Sunday, Sep. 20, beginning at 11:45 am**, immediately following the 10:30 am service. This year, we hope to have at least 50 participants from Nativity and our neighbors at North Raleigh Presbyterian Church to help package 10,000+ meals. All participants must register in advance. Questions? Contact René Garcés for more information.

ONE WAKE SEP. 19 ACTION – WE NEED YOU!

Please join with all ONE Wake's 45+ faith organizations at a "town hall" **Saturday, Sep. 19 from 1-3 pm**. We hope to have at least 50 folks from Nativity. We need your help! We believe that as well-intentioned as many of our representatives are, they do not fully understand how urgently this work needs to be done. Come, bring a spouse, a young person, a friend – let's do this! If lower housing costs would affect you personally, we are also looking for individuals willing to sit at the front of the action! Hope you'll join us.

