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*The Nativity Scene is the newsletter of Holy Nativity Episcopal Church.
The deadline for announcements and articles is the 15th each month prior to publication .*

DIOCESE OF THE CENTRAL GULF COAST

*The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan II - Bishop
The Rev. Steven B. Bates - Rector
The Rev. Tom Weller, Associate
The Rev. Bob Dean, Deacon*

CHURCH STAFF

*Director of Choirs - Marqua Brunette
Children's CE Director - Beverly McDaniel
Youth Director - Judy Dickey
Administrative Assistant - Madge Smith
Church Bookkeeper - Kathy Mills
Church Organist - John Durgan
Sexton - Lawrence Long
Weekend Sexton - James Rahn
Nursery Attendants - Megan Thompson, Molly Thompson*

THE VESTRY

*Fr. Steve Bates - Rector
Gayle Ahrens 10-13
Charles Bonham 10-13
Max Dannecker 09-12
Mike Dickey 11-14
Richard Doran 11-14
Mark Godwin - Treasurer*

Donna Hairston 09-12

*Jim Hixson 11-14
Brian Leebrick 10-13
Mary Ellen Pettis 11-14
Amy Russell 09-12
Madge Smith - Clerk
Stewart Sumpton 09-12
John Thompson 10-13*

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

*8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite I *
9:15 a.m. - Adult and Youth CE, Children's
Chapel
10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist - Rite II**
*Nursery Provided
**Children's CE and Nursery Provided*



March 2011
Volume 15, Issue 3

HAITI REPORT

MARCH 6TH
9:15 AM IN
BATTIN HALL

EVERYONE IS
INVITED TO
COME HAVE A
CUP OF COFFEE
AND HEAR
ABOUT FR.
STEVE'S TRIP TO
HAITI!



the NATIVITY Scene

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
March 8, 2011
5:30 pm in Battin Hall



Pancake Supper

It's time to feast on Pancakes and sausages before the season of Lent begins!

If you get the "baby from the King's Cake, you win reserved parking and seating at the Easter Service of your choice!

Tickets: Adult/Youth: \$5, Children: \$3, Family: \$15



MARCH 9, 2011
7:30 AM AND 6:00 PM

**HOLY EUCHARIST AND
IMPOSITION OF ASHES**

Love Life Live Lent

Lenten Program 2011

WARNING: Participation could seriously affect you and the world you live in!!

This program developed by the Church of England contains over 40 small things to do during Lent. But small actions can have a major impact—in our families, our schools and places of work, our communities and in the wider world. This is a wonderful program for individuals and families in addition to our regular Wednesday programs. Love Life, Live Lent booklets will be available this Sunday, at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Ash Wednesday or in the Church office. Transform your world this Lent!

Note: There will be no Wednesday Lenten Program on March 16 due to Spring Break.

FLOWER GUILD AT HOLY NATIVITY

The first organizational meeting of the flower guild was held February the 11th at the lovely home of Nancy Breland. Nancy served a lovely lunch and great fellowship was enjoyed. Thirteen women have signed up for the newly formed group and we had 7 in attendance. We discussed ways to glorify God through beautifying the church with flowers. We made plans to provide flowers the last weekend of the every month. Look for something once a month that is unique and from one of these creative members of the guild. We will also be getting together periodically to learn arranging techniques and maybe each other's secrets on flower arranging. Look also for an upcoming fund raiser from us. We will need a little seed money for new containers and supplies. If you are interested in joining our group there is still time. Please contact either Madge at the office or Lori Bates. We will be glad to add more members and I'm just saying..." you don't have to be a female...all are welcome"!

Lori Bates
loribatesinteriors@hotmail.com
850-249-5676



**WEDNESDAY LENTEN PROGRAM
AND SOUP SUPPERS**
5:30—Soup Suppers
6:15 Worship
6:30 Program

**March 23—Love Life Live Lent—
How's it Going?** Join us as we share stories about the Love Life, Live Lent program and hear how fellow parishioners are making this a part of their lives.

March 30—Lenten Meditations— Join us as we hear wonderful Lenten Meditations from many of the worlds greatest theologians as compiled in the book, *Bread and Wine*.

April 6— The Road to Jerusalem— We will view a video depicting the final week of Jesus' life as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew.

**April 13—The Liturgical Journey
of Holy Week—**We will examine the history and meaning of our Liturgical practices from Palm Sunday until Easter Sunday.

Sign up sheet for breads and soups can be found in Battin Hall.

March Birthdays



Mar. 2: Lauren Collins
Mar. 4: Shirley Batteiger, Justin Rahn
Mar. 5: Inge Churchill, Jerry Darnell, David Grossman, Molly McLendon, Nelson Scott
Mar. 6: Catherine Churchill
Mar. 8: Brianna Fisher, Terrell Hartzog
Mar. 9: Cassie Commander, Alexander Lovchuk, Samuel McLane
Mar. 10: Andrew Collier
Mar. 12: Ashley Metzler
Mar. 13: Antonio Adessi, Alexander Mallary
Mar. 14: Noah Patterson
Mar. 17: Sarah Austin, Rebekah Wishart
Mar. 18: William Cramer
Mar. 19: Nicolas Stuart
Mar. 20: Alva Davis, Dana Dye
Mar. 22: Tommy Harding
Mar. 23: Kate Bewick, C.J. Walrond
Mar. 24: Nancy Breland, Georgie Hartzog
Mar. 25: Dorothy Allen
Mar. 26: Theresa Durgan
Mar. 27: Paul Hunt
Mar. 28: George McInnis, Alex Russell
Mar. 30: Kendall Lovchuk
Mar. 31: John Laughter

March Anniversaries



Mar. 4: David and Natasha Lithway
Mar. 15: Jimmy and Sue White
Mar. 16: Jeff and Margie Mahalak
Mar. 22: Gene and Kathleen Wicker
Mar. 27: Bob and Lisa McLendon

"GIRLS' 21 CHOIR"

Sunday, March 20th

Rite One – "Girls' 21 Choir"
Prelude Music begins at 7:40 AM

Rite Two – "Girls' 21 Choir"
Prelude Music begins at 10:10 AM

COME TO CHURCH EARLY!!

SUPPER AT GRACE

Thank you everyone for your very generous response to my plea on behalf of our guests at Supper at Grace for warm jackets, sweaters, caps, gloves and scarves. They were truly grateful for your kindness.

With warm weather (finally) moving in, please hold further clothing contributions for next winter. Warm weather also means Vacation Time! Now is the time to bring back those little complimentary soaps, shampoos and lotions from your trips, and instead of tossing them in a drawer, drop them into the green basket in Battin Hall. Thank you to those of you who are already doing this.

I would also like to thank those of you who are making monetary donations towards our suppers. These donations have gone a long way in supporting this ministry. If you would like to contribute, make checks payable to HNEC and put "Supper at Grace" in the memo line.

If you would like to take part in this ministry on the second Thursday of each month, contact me at tgahrens@bellsouth.net or 319-6683.

Gayle Ahrens



By Marqua Brunette, Director of Choirs

The Chancel Choir

The season of Lent is on the horizon and I encourage each of you to attend our Ash

Wednesday evening service on March 9th. The Chancel Choir will be singing that evening and I assure you it will be a meaningful service. I also encourage you to consider making singing in one of our choirs your Lenten Discipline. Many of you have told me you wanted to join us. Why not come and try it during Lent?

The Chancel Choir is a wonderful group of dedicated people and many have been in the choir for many years. Others have sung in their former church choirs in other cities. Wherever you roam, a church choir always makes you feel like home. Not only are these individuals dedicated to their singing for Sunday services and Thursday rehearsals, they are also very compassionate and caring. Rehearsals are weekly on Thursdays from 6:30 – 8:30 PM and Sunday mornings from 9:30 – 10:15. The Rite One Choir is only about a year old but we have grown from three members to seven (eight if you count

me!) and they continue to improve! While they only sing about once a month, weekly rehearsals continue on Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:30 PM. Every rehearsal for each choir has prayer time for us and for others. It is so important that we remember that we are doing God’s work and sharing the gift of song that has been given to us.

Children’s Choir

The Children’s Choir is busy rehearsing and looking forward to singing on Palm Sunday, April 17th. Traditionally they love this service as they get to sing in the courtyard and represent the children that lined the path for Jesus as he came into Jerusalem. We rehearse in the choir office on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:00 and open to all children in grades first through eighth. We will not have a rehearsal during Spring Break week (March 16). It continues to amaze me how they grow musically and spiritually. Now that school is in its second semester and schedules are up and running again, please consider your child’s participation in this wonderful opportunity for sharing in the worship services and music ministry at Holy Nativity. They are welcome to come and ‘just try it’ on any given Wednesday afternoon. They will be met by eager and enthusiastic children with a dedication and passion for

Visiting Choir on March 20th!!

On Sunday morning, March 20th, you will want to arrive early and come into the sanctuary ahead of time to hear “Girls’ 21 Choir” from Colorado. Girls’ 21 is one of the premier choirs of Cherry Creek High School in Greenwood Village, Colorado. It is comprised of 39 auditioned young women who learn not only choral technique and quality literature, but an understanding of the aesthetics of music and basics of music. Girls’ 21 has appeared at numerous state, regional and national conventions for the American Choral Directors Association and Music Educator’s National Conference and have toured extensively throughout the United States, Western Europe, Australia, and Costa Rica. Most recently they were chosen to sing for Colorado Music Educators at the Broadmoor Hotel in January 2011. Over the past 40 years the choir has hosted some of the finest professional and collegiate choral conductors at their annual May Concerts, including Anton Armstrong, Andre Thomas, and Simon Carrington (founder of the King’s Singers). Adam Cave, conductor of the choir, is a graduate of the University of Puget Sound and has taught in Washington and Colorado. He is in his third year at Cherry Creek. He’s also an active vocal performer and sings with Kantorei, a Denver based professional choir that will sing at the National ACDA Convention this March in Chicago. On March 20th, they will sing Prelude music at Holy Nativity as well as the Anthem that morning and communion music.

Following the 8:00 service we will have a little light refreshment for them in Battin Hall. After the 10:30 service we are serving them lunch in the Parish House before they go to Mathison Home to sing a concert. Our Choirs are assisting in preparing and serving, but if anyone else wants to help, please contact me. I trust all of you will help make them feel welcome and show them around our property. We will be honored to have them that morning and

Sunday, March 20th Schedule

Rite One – “Girls’ 21 Choir” – Prelude Music begins at 7:40 AM

Rite Two – “Girls’ 21 Choir” – Prelude Music begins at 10:10 AM

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS AGAIN!!

Now quit your care and anxious fear and worry;
for schemes are vain and fretting brings no gain.
Lent calls to prayer, to trust and dedication;
God brings new beauty nigh;
reply, reply, reply with love to love most high;
reply, reply, reply with love to love most high.

To bow the head in sackcloth and in ashes,
or rend the soul, such grief is not Lent's goal;
but to be led to where God's glory flashes,
God's beauty to come near.
Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light appear;
Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light appear.

For righteousness and peace will show their faces
to those who feed the hungry in their need,
and wrongs redress, who build the old waste places,
and in the darkness shine.
Divine, divine, divine it is when all combine!
Divine, divine, divine it is when all combine!

Words: Percy Dearmer (20thC)
Music: *Quittez, Pasteurs*, French carol; harm. Martin Fallas Shaw (20thC)

*I am mending well and Adult Sunday School will resume March 13, 2011, First Sunday in Lent, at 9:15 in Mary Stuart Poole Library. All are invited and welcome! We will begin with **SIN**, which is the entire subject of our Bible readings for that first Sunday! There are five Sundays in Lent deep in sin, which we will experience through the Collects, the Lectionary, and the hymns. To get in mood, attitude and frame of mind, we will look at Lenten traditions and customs ancient and modern, and we will consider the theology and history of the hymns we sing in worship on the Sundays in Lent.*

*Come one come all!
Father Tom+*

MARY-MARTHA CIRCLE

The Mary-Martha Circle of The Episcopal Community will hold an informational meeting in the Parish House on Friday, March 11, 2011, at 5:00 PM.

Membership is open to women eighteen years or older who are confirmed members of the Episcopal Church. The focus of the Circle is to help women live into their Baptismal Covenant by connecting, supporting, serving, and studying with other women of like mind.

If you are interested in your own spiritual growth and enriching the lives of those around you, please plan to attend the meeting, or contact one of the following:

Marilyn Hauser 850-896-7320 or mghauser@hotmail.com

Gayle Ahrens 850-235-4265 or tgahrens@bellsouth.net

Laura Johnson 850-866-1552 or mcjohnson@knology.net

YOUTH NEWS!

By Judy Dickey

Hello Youth!

March looks like it will be a busy month for us, with a lot of potential changes.

March 2nd: First of all, we now have one of the upstairs "nooks" completely cleaned out and ready to re-decorate. We will be painting on our first Wednesday night in March. If you want to help, and want to have some input on colors and styles, you need to be there!

March 8th (Tuesday): It's the parish pancake supper, and we get to decorate! Please meet at the church at 4:30 if you want to help set up, decorate, and serve. If you help us out, pancakes are on me!

March 9th: is Ash Wednesday, and we will therefore not have a regular upstairs room event. Instead, we are going to meet Tuesday evening, for the parish pancake supper. We will be decorating beforehand, with a Mardi Gras theme, of course. We will help set up and clean up as well, then do something fun as a group.

March 16th: Spring Break - no regularly scheduled youth group meeting. If you would like to get together for fun, we certainly will. I also thought this week would be a great chance for us to help with the Thursday suppers at Grace. I would like to go as a group on St. Patrick's day, March 17th, if enough of you are in town and interested.

March 12th or 19th: We will have a youth campout at the church! One Saturday night over Spring Break, we will have a scavenger hunt at the mall, eat in the food court, and return to the church for an overnighiter. We will pitch tents where the demolished buildings were, light a campfire (yes, I have permission), roast marshmallows, sing songs, and tell ghost stories. On Sunday morning, we will have breakfast, brush our teeth, and sit in the back pew for the 8am service. We will be determining which Saturday works best for our youth regulars on our first Wednesday night in March. Watch your bulletins and emails for details.

March 23rd: This is the first week of the Lenten soup suppers, and we will move our youth group meeting time up to 5:30pm so that we can join the rest of the parish for dinner. Following supper, we will move upstairs for our regularly scheduled program, which will also end a half hour early, at 7:30.

From the diocesan website: "The next Happening weekend will be held March 25-27, 2011 at St. Luke’s in Marianna. This is a wonderful and uplifting event for youth from grades 9-12 (second semester). This upcoming weekend, **we are only taking 15 participants** so please register now! The deadline for registration is February 25, 2011." I would love to take some of you high schoolers up to Marianna for this. Please check out their website for details (<http://www.diocgc.org/youth-and-young-adult-ministries/>) and let me know if you would like to register.

March 30th: meet from 5:30 to 7:30 so that we can eat with the church.

Whew! I told you it was a busy month! See you in the upstairs room, and bring a friend.

Judy

Children’s Ministry March 2011

March	Children’s Chapel 9:15	WoRm 10:30	Godly Play 10:30	Nursery 10:15
6	Meet in Battin Hall for Fr. Steve’s presentation on his trip to Haiti	Old Testament Study: Abraham and Isaac Judy Bennett 215-1579 Tom Hairston 784-6319	Parable of the Good Shepherd Karen Shores 867-1084 Jo Bruhn 819-6667	Sandy Ciccarelli 265-9276
13	Tom Hairston 784-6319 Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	Old Testament Study: Jacob and Joseph Judy Bennett 215-1579 Ashley Eaton 769-8533	The Holy Family Lenka Doran 784-1048 Carolyn Cramer 769-6789	Nancy Reeder 596-9538
20	Tom Hairston 784-6319 Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	Old Testament Study: Moses and the Exodus Candace Leebrick 522-9240 Jo Bruhn 819-6667	Parable of the Mustard Seed Ashley Eaton 769-8533 Carolyn Cramer 769-6789	Carolyn Roberts 763-9566
27	Tom Hairston 784-6319 Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	Old Testament Study: Joshua Kathy Brust 265-3172 Chris Mills 913-1595	The Mystery of Easter I Anji Dunlap 763-0875 Cassie Commander 265-4400	Pat Spangler 215-5279

Episcopalians are sometimes accused of focusing too much on the Book of Common Prayer and not teaching enough about the Bible. We hope to refute (or rectify) this. Each Sunday at 9:15, we are trying to help the children distinguish between the two by showing our liturgical forms of worship and traditions as found in the Prayer Book and by learning about the Bible as God’s Holy Word upon which our faith and beliefs are founded. The children are learning the books of the Bible; many can already sing the New Testament books, and now we are working on the Old Testament. In both Children’s Chapel and WoRM, they are becoming quite familiar with the Bible stories and heroes that have shaped our faith and traditions. Now we want to develop a “Bible Story Timeline” to offer a perspective of people, places, and events through Bible history and the stories of Jesus. Godly Play continues to be a beautiful time for our pre-schoolers to “wonder” about God, Bible stories, and their own lives.

During the Lenten season, the children are invited to *Love Life Live Lent*. Following the soup suppers, we will have a short *Live Lent* time in Kids’ Kingdom, and then we will *Love Life* and play!

Thank you all so much for your support for our Children’s Ministry. Please call me with your comments or suggestions. If you are scheduled to serve and cannot, please arrange as soon as possible to swap with another teacher, or call me at home or at the church office.

Beverly McDaniel