



the NATIVITY *Scene*

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

November 2011 Volume 15, Issue 10

Give thanks with a *Grateful Heart*

this created world, our life, our time, our talents, our families, and our relationship to people and possessions. We are indeed a blessed people and I believe we are being called by God to further God's kingdom in this place we call home.

I fully recognize that we are in difficult economic times in our country. Yet the vision we share calls us to respond in hope, not fear to that which we believe to be the challenges before us. Additionally, we have begun raising funds for Phase II of our facility plan, which will finally address facility issues that have been neglected for too long. Please understand that these are two separate efforts. Your pledges to Holy Nativity support the yearly operations, ministries, programs, outreach and staffing needs of the parish and are of primary importance. The separate capital drive will address facilities. If you must choose between the two efforts, please choose to support the ministries of the parish through this stewardship pledge. Additional information about the facilities plan is available in the Church office.

Stewardship involves our financial resources. The Biblical standard for giving to the mission and work of the Church is the tithe (10%). Yet, stewardship also involves our time and our talent. Our time and talent sheets contain a list of jobs, functions and ministries that take place in our parish and ways you can become involved. It is the generosity of Holy Nativity's members with their time, talent, and financial support that makes the work of our Lord possible through this part of the greater body of Christ. On the time and talent sheets, please list those functions in which you are already involved AND those functions in which you would like to become involved.

Prayerfully consider your gift to Holy Nativity in the coming year. Prayerfully consider areas of ministry where your time and talent could be used. You can listen to a podcast of my stewardship sermon on our web-site at www.holy-nativity.org. There are great things happening in this parish and much work to be done. Your pledge cards and time and talent surveys may be mailed to the Church office in the enclosed envelope, placed in the collection plate, or given to me or any member of the vestry.

God Love You,
Steve+

Stewardship 2012

To the Parish Family of Holy Nativity:

Our 2012 Stewardship Campaign has begun. Christian stewardship is how we use everything that God has given us including

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH NEWS!

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS



Sales of our wonderful Nativity stained-glass window Christmas Ornaments were brisk last year!! They are again on sale. Don't miss out – they will make a lovely addition to your tree this year, as well as terrific gifts. Ornaments are available in Battin Hall on Sundays and in the Church Office during the week. Just \$20.00 each. All proceeds go to Missions and Outreach.

SUPPER AT GRACE

Holy Nativity sponsors Supper at Grace on the Second Thursday of each month. This is an outreach at Grace Episcopal to feed those in need of a meal. We have been averaging 50 dinners and 50 take-outs each month..... We are having a terrific time each month. We are still looking for a back-up crew – someone(s) willing to step in at the last minute to help when a regular is unable to be there. Contact Gayle Ahrens at tgahrens@bellsouth.net if you are able to participate, either as a regular or a back-up. Thank you to those of you who have been making monetary contributions towards the dinners. We appreciate you! Cold weather is moving in (afraid so) and many of our guests don't have warm clothing for the cooler days and nights. Would you please consider donating jackets, gloves and hats for us to distribute at our dinners. You may leave them in Battin Hall or at the church office.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It's not too late!!!! You can still pick up your empty shoebox in the Church foyer. Fill it with small items that will bring a smile to a child's face at Christmas and return it to Battin Hall before Nov. 7; or drop it off in the Church Office.



Adult Christian Education Father Tom

NOT TOO LATE! IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS OR OUR TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS. SUNDAY SCHOOL MEETS IN THE MARY STUART POOLE LIBRARY 9:15 SUNDAY MORNINGS, BETWEEN SERVICES. A GOOD TIME IS HAD BY ALL. DON'T BRING ANYTHING BUT YOUR COFFEE. BIBLE STUDY MEETS IN MY OFFICE BEHIND THE GARAGE AT THE PARISH HOUSE/OFFICE BUILDING, 9:45 TO 11:15 TUESDAYS. COFFEE AND BISCOTTI ARE PROVIDED, WEAR YOUR THINKING CAP!

Advent Outreach

Outreach Families

Advent begins Nov. 27th and Holy Nativity will begin collecting donations for our Advent Outreach families. Every year we help families in need in our community and parish. The youth will go shopping with the funds collected and wrap the gifts for Christmas.

Holy Nativity's Angel Tree

Look for the Angel Tree located in Battin Hall beginning on Nov. 27th. There will be ornaments with names from a local nursing home with a few items on each one. Just return the gifts by the deadline indicated.

Episcopal Church Women Meeting

November 7, 2011 at 6:00 pm in the Parish House

All women of the church are invited to attend!

They will make Chrismons and elect new officers!

WHAT'S A CHRISMON?

Chrismons are a type of Christmas Tree decoration used in many churches and often in the homes of Christians. The symbols used represent a variety of biblical and theological concepts that are well known among most believers. Often, if the ornaments on a Christmas tree are comprised mostly of Christian symbols, the tree is known as a "Chrismon Tree." Chrismons are white with gold decorations of beads, ribbon, glitter, etc. It is common, however, to see these ancient Christian designs in other colors than white and gold. These would not be Chrismons, however, but simply Christian symbols -- and there's nothing wrong with that!



United
fering

Thank Of-

Ingathering
November 13, 2011

UTO boxes and envelopes are located in Battin Hall! Count your blessings and put a coin each time in the box or just write a check and put it in a UTO envelope.

Bring your offering on November 13th for collection.

Hello again, youth!

We are back to our regular Wednesday night schedule for November. Meet at 6pm in the upstairs room for more fun and fellowship. The highlight of our weekly meetings will probably be the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, when we will celebrate with an ultra-traditional dinner: the 2nd annual "Leviticus Potluck"! I will help you brush up on all those important food rules found in Leviticus and Deuteronomy so that we can enjoy our feast in accordance with strict Biblical traditions. You may have to be just a wee bit creative . . .



We are also having a fabulous time in Sunday School, exploring the interesting and sometimes confusing stories in Exodus. Did you know that God had "back parts"? You would if you had been with us! Join us for answers to those deep meaningful questions like "Why didn't the Israelites get it?" every Sunday at 9:15am.

See you upstairs!

Judy/248-6624/judydickey@gmail.com

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS 2011



Children's Ministry November 2011

November	Sunday School 9:10	Children's Church 10:30	Nursery 10:15
6	"The Apostles and All Saints" Tom Hairston 884-6319 Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	"What is All Saints Day?" Amy Russell 784-0096 Judy Bennett 215-1579	Sandy Cicarelli 265-9276
13	"I'm A Disciple Too" Tom Hairston 884-6319 Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	"The Miracles of Jesus" Trey Hutt 814-7934 Judy Bennett 215-1579	Nancy Reeder 596-9538
20	Tom Hairston 884-6319 Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	"Christ The King" Trey Hutt 814-7934 Judy Bennett 215-1579	Kaew Sumpton 872-3782
27	Thanksgiving NO PROGRAM	"Advent Wreaths" Candace Leebrick 522-9240 Ashley Eaton 769-8533	Pat Spangler 215-5247

Thank you all so much for your contributions to our Children's Ministry. Special thanks go to Tom Hairston for his Sunday School lessons and to Judy Bennett for developing curriculum and the delightful accompanying crafts for Children's Church. We also appreciate the artistic talents of Candace Leebrick, Ashley Eaton, and other parents who design, sew, paint or do anything we ask them to do.

As we approach the Christmas season, we are preparing for "A Morning with Saint Nicholas" at 9:30 on December 4 and the 4:30 Children's Christmas Pageant at the Christmas Eve service. Unless there is opposition from you, the pageant will be similar to last year's and will require only one or two practices and costume fittings. We will learn our songs during Sunday School and Children's Church. Please call me with your opinions and suggestions. Parents, if you or your children have special requests, questions, or recommendations, please let me hear those too.

Again, thank you so much for your help in making our church a wonderful place for our children.

Beverly McDaniel



By Marqua Brunette, Director of Choirs

The Rite One Choir

If you attend the early Rite 1 service and wish to sing, we have an 'early service' choir currently singing about once a month. Our rehearsals are in the church on Thursdays from 5:30 - 6:30. This more relaxed schedule works well in some people's lives – what about yours? Come and join us!

The Chancel Choir

The Chancel Choir has begun rehearsing for our fast approaching 'busy' season of Advent and Christmas. Any and all interested adults and qualified high school students are always welcome to come and sing with us, even if you only want to sing for a month or two. Regular rehearsals are held every Thursday evening from 6:30 – 8:30 and Sunday mornings at 9:30. Lessons and Carols is scheduled for Wednesday evening, December 7th at 6:30 PM, so mark your calendars now. We would welcome your participation during the coming special seasons so consider joining our song!

Children's Choir

The 2011-2012 Children's Choir made their official 'debut' at the Blessing of the Animals and they had a wonderful time. While we have already begun working on Advent songs and our Christmas Pageant songs, it is not too late to join us. All children in grades one through six are invited and welcomed to join us for a fun-filled hour each Wednesday afternoon from 4:00 – 5:00 PM. Every rehearsal begins with prayer time and warming up of our voices and minds. Please contact Marqua Brunette with any questions that you might have. The Children's Choir is a very special opportunity for children at Holy Nativity to grow musically and spiritually and to learn about serving in the church. We look forward to having your child join us!

Prayers for Choir Members

During a recent Children's Choir rehearsal, at the closing of our prayer time, I also asked for prayers of healing for various adult choir members who had been sick or preparing for or recovering from surgery. As I began to list the names I realized that the list was growing! Once we all said "AMEN," one child exclaimed, "What's *wrong* with all of them?" It did seem like an awfully long list! There is a common bond within all of our choir for other choirs and when one is hurting they all hurt and when one rejoices, we all share in that joy. Please keep our music ministry in your prayers – this has been a trying time for many of our members and we look forward to their healthy return to join our song. God bless you for your appreciation of all they do for the spiritual life of Holy Nativity.



- Nov. 1 David Dawe, Karen Shores
- Nov. 2 Blair Bates, Kaew Sumpton
- Nov. 3 Mary Richardson, Mona Ullmann
- Nov. 4 Max McCord
- Nov. 5 Sandy Ciccarelli, Betsy McLendon
- Nov. 6 Chantal Camenzind, Renee Madden, Ann Rist
- Nov. 7 Grey Davis, Abigail Dingus
- Nov. 8 Evelyn Jordan, Ginny Morrow
- Nov. 9 Patrick Kelley, Allison Swann-Davis
- Nov. 10 M. Terry Ullmann
- Nov. 11 Robert Carroll
- Nov. 13 Patty McRae
- Nov. 15 Dru Epps
- Nov. 16 Mary Bonham
- Nov. 18 Devin Dunn, Rachael Dunn, Hodge McCloy
- Nov. 19 Joe Ferrante, Adeline Kuster, Stewart Sumpton
- Nov. 21 Patti Akst, Mimi Pettis
- Nov. 22 Judy Bennett, Sawn Johnson-Broege
- Nov. 24 Amy Russell, Rusty Smith
- Nov. 25 Aaron Kuster, Billy Wicker
- Nov. 26 Samantha Bates, Dean Dickey
- Nov. 28 Herb Arlt, Michael Darrah, Joy Thompson



**November 6, 2011
Sunday at 2:00 am
Don't miss church!!**



- Nov. 4 Daniel and Holly Melzer
- Nov. 14 John and Mary Darrah
- Nov. 17 Max and Kirsten McCord
- Nov. 22 Harvey and Peggy David
- Nov. 29 David and Mary Burris

A THANK YOU FROM ANCHORAGE CHILDREN'S HOME

Dear Holy Nativity Episcopal Church,

On behalf of Anchorage Children's Home, I would like to thank you for your generous donation. Your contribution makes it possible for us to keep young people safe and empower them to reach their dreams.

Since its inception, Anchorage has served over 30,000 children and families; 1500 just last year alone. Our goal is to provide a safe foundation for young people during their darkest hours and to equip families with the necessary tools to restore their broken families. Our success is largely because of thoughtful contributions from people like you.

In 2011, we plan to better educate our community about our programs and services in an effort to end the vicious cycle of abuse and homelessness. We'd like you to join us in this effort by continuing our financial support of our agency.

Once again thank you for your generous donation.

Sincerely,

Tim Putman

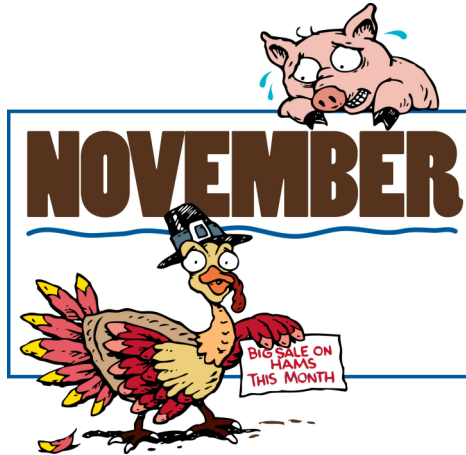
Executive Director



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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

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

THE VESTRY

<i>Fr. Steve Bates - Rector</i>	<i>Jim Hixson 11-14</i>
<i>Gayle Ahrens 10-13</i>	<i>Brian Leebrick 10-13</i>
<i>Charles Bonham 10-13</i>	<i>Mary Ellen Pettis 11-14</i>
<i>Max Dannecker 09-12</i>	<i>Amy Russell 09-12</i>
<i>Mike Dickey 11-14</i>	<i>Madge Smith - Clerk</i>
<i>Richard Doran 11-14</i>	<i>Stewart Sumpton 09-12</i>
<i>Mark Godwin - Treasurer</i>	<i>John Thompson 10-13</i>
<i>Donna Hairston 09-12</i>	

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

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

**Nursery Provided*

***Children's CE and Nursery Provided*