



the NATIVITY Scene

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

September 2013
Volume 17, Issue 8

WEDNESDAYS AT NATIVITY



(Date Change!)
Begins September 25th



11:30 A.M.
Healing Service with
Eucharist
Lunch and Bible Study
to Follow



5:30 P.M.
Casual, come as you
are Eucharist!
Dinner and Programs to Follow



Happy September!

Welcome back to your youth group. We have already started meeting on Wednesday nights (6 to 8pm) in the upstairs room. If you haven't been yet, come join us! Here's what else is coming up this month:

September 6th through 8th we are going to be at Rock The Universe in Orlando. That means that those of you who are just dying to get back into Sunday School will have to wait until . . .

September 15th: Youth Sunday School begins. We meet every Sunday between services, at 9:15am in the upstairs room. Our focus is on the lectionary readings for that week, and what God is really trying to tell us through them.

September 25th: Our Wednesday night format is going to change. We will begin meeting at 5:30pm in the church for a short, interesting service that you should really like. Dinner will follow at 6, then we will head to the upstairs room for an hour of follow-up program and fun. That's right, Wednesday nights will be from **5:30 to 7:30** beginning on the 25th.

September 28th: There is water in Porter Pond! The Bonhams have invited us up for another lake party, and you really don't want to miss this. There will be swimming, boating, tubing, water skiing, and the largest water-balloon slingshots you have ever seen. I can't wait.

We have a youth group page on Facebook, just "friend" me and I will add you.

Judy Dickey

judydickey@gmail.com



Wednesday Noon Healing Eucharist

Have you ever been to a healing service? This month, starting Wednesday, September 25, Holy Nativity will again after some years offer a mid-week service that we call "healing." A spiritual event not a medical event, the Altar rail is open for anyone who wishes, to come forward and receive the Laying On of Hands with Prayer, and Anointing with Oil, for healing, penitence, reconciliation.

In that prayer is not our undertaking to influence God but our offering of ourselves in humble submission for God to change us, we pray for healing in body, mind, spirit. Each petition is a private moment between God and the one who comes, with clergy or other healing minister as aide. In our case, the Wednesday healing minister will always be one of the clergy, and the prayer is quietly in full confidence. Music may be playing in the background to help cover voices, and those who come forward are asked to leave space between themselves and the next person for privacy. If the person wishes, he or she may express special in-

tentions to the minister, prayers or hopes for oneself or for someone else.

The minister then lays hands on head and offers prayer for each need as expressed, and may conclude with anointing with consecrated oil.

If the person does not wish special prayers, the minister may offer a general prayer such as:

I lay my hands upon you in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, beseeching him to uphold you and fill you with his grace, that you may know the healing power of his love. *Amen.*

Not threatening in any way, the church's healing service is a warm and holy moment with God. Those who do not wish to come forward simply remain in their pew in prayer and meditation until the Celebrant begins the Eucharist.

From Fr. Steve & Fr. Tom

Adult Christian Education: Father Tom

Welcome to our Fall 2013 season, now right on top of us!

Adult Sunday School starts September 8th, Sunday after Labor Day, between services, 9:15 a.m. in the Mary Stuart Poole Library. As we were finishing up our Spring season, folks asked to study Genesis and the Creeds during the Fall term, so that will be our premise, and always with opportunity to expand. No registration or sign-up required, Bibles and Prayer Books will be provided, just come enjoy!

- Genesis 1: a sophisticated story spoken from on high, that debunks Canaanite gods and climaxes with God creating humans on the *very last day* as the most special of all.
- Genesis 2: a nitty gritty campfire story in which God digs in the dirt and forms earthlings on the *very first day* as the most special of all, puffs his own Breath into us to give us life, lets us name everything, and puts us in charge.
- Genesis 3: a strange story of temptation and sin involving a man, a woman, a tree with beautiful but forbidden fruit (which from personal observation I think was figs), a sneaky beast who seems to have been created just to make trouble and be punished for it, and an angry Deity.
- Baptismal Creed: a statement of belief in our trinitarian God and of personal promise to live faithfully according to God's hopes for us.
- Nicene Creed: a faith document mandated some sixteen hundred years ago by factious old bishops and impatient emperors, as a statement of trinitarian orthodoxy to guard the Church against false doctrine.
- Athanasian Creed: minutely detailed trinitarian theology, a historical document of the Western Church still used occasionally in some parts of the Church, but mercifully not in ours.
- Genesis 4: a tale of sibling rivalry, jealousy and murder and the origins of human history.
- Genesis 5, 6 ... more history leading to sin and a global flood ... you get the idea.

Wednesday Healing, Eucharist & Bible Study over Lunch, starts September 25, 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary and spills over into Battin Hall. *THIS IS A NEW MINISTRY OFFERING* with study and discussions each week focusing on the Bible Readings for the upcoming Sunday. Bibles and light lunch will be provided. No sign-up required. Come try it!

Confirmation Classes in Preparation for the Bishop's Visit in February will start in October. As well as for those who are thinking about being confirmed by the bishop, this will be for everyone who wants to learn more about our Episcopal place in the Christian Church. Watch for details next month.

Tom+

Wine, Women, and Backpacks!

All women are invited to attend this fun event that happens every month on the last Thursday of the month. In September, the date is Sept. 26th at 5:00 pm. Everyone will meet in the food pantry room, and bring your favorite bottle of wine. We will fill 93 backpacks and afterwards everyone will go to a local restaurant for dinner. Questions? Contact Judy Dickey/248-6624/ judydickey@gmail.com



Girl Scouts Honor Community Role Models

Women of Distinction Award

Holy Nativity would like to give recognition to our own members who were nominated for this award given by The Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle. Congratulations on being nominated!

Holly Melzer

After a distinguished law career, Holly was named partner at Barron & Redding . Prior to attending law school, Holly worked as a fund-raiser for St. Jude Children's research Hospital, raising over two million dollars for the organization. Holly continues to take time to stay active in her community where she is President of Anchorage Children's Home and is active in her church, Holy Nativity Episcopal Church.

Victoria Williams

Victoria is a registered and licensed architect with over 20 years of experience and has her own business, VBA Design, Inc. Victoria's diverse community involvement includes the Panama City POPS Orchestra Board of Directors, and the Emerald Coast Business Women. She received the 2010 Bay County Chamber of commerce Member of the Year Award, as well as, the Florida American Institute of Architects Silver Medal. Victoria is past President of the Northwest Florida AIA board of Directors, is currently serving on the Board of Directors for United Way of Northwest Florida, Habitat for Humanity, and is serving on the Holy Nativity Episcopal School Board.

The Girl Scout Gold Award

The Gold Award represents the highest achievement on Girl Scouting. It recognizes girls who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through remarkable take-action projects that have sustainable impact in their communities and beyond.

2013 Gold Award Recipients from Holy Nativity Episcopal Church

Callie Mills (Bay High School)
Genevieve La Cour Smith (Bay High School)

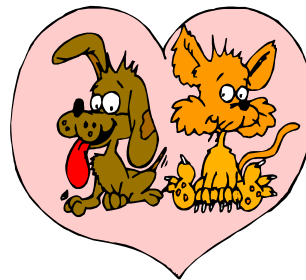


Sept. 1	John Durgan, Chad Gall
Sept. 3	Jo Bruhn, Julia McLane
Sept. 4	Sara Bass
Sept. 6	Bayne Collins, Kaitlyn Kelley, Al Lawrence, Shelby Roberson, Stevens Roberson
Sept. 7	Pat Spangler
Sept. 8	Casey Cole
Sept. 9	Harvey David
Sept. 10	Bill Ethridge, Gene Wicker
Sept. 11	Emma Crelling
Sept. 12	William Ehtridge, John McLendon
Sept. 14	Tom Weller
Sept. 17	James Cosper
Sept. 18	Richard Bruhn, Jennifer Gailfoil, Jackie Rahn, Victoria Williams
Sept. 20	Anne Harris
Sept. 21	Judy Dickey, Ron Yessman
Sept. 24	Janice FitzSimons
Sept. 25	Donna Jangula, Eric Stewart
Sept. 26	Olivia Clemons, David Smith
Sept. 27	Hannah Dye, Mary Frances Hutt
Sept. 28	Chuck Coley
Sept. 29	Mia Carroll, Denis Healey, Oliver Pettis, Carson Shores
Sept. 30	Judi Lawrence



Sept. 1	Tommy and Torri Bishop Tony and Helen Hill
Sept. 12	Doug and Susan Messer
Sept. 14	Lou and Inge Churchill
Sept. 16	Aaron and Karen Shores
Sept. 17	Greg and Amy Russell
Sept. 18	Ron and Ann Yessman
Sept. 27	Henry and Nancy Breland
Sept. 29	Doug and Caroline Smith
Sept. 30	Terry and Donna Jangula

“FOOD FOR FURRY FRIENDS” Benefits The Bay County Humane Society



The Holy Nativity Episcopal Church's Children's Choir is asking for your donations to help collect “Food for Furry Friends” in conjunction with our annual *St. Francis Blessing of the Animals* on Wednesday, Oct. 9th. The drop-off box will

be inside the Kid's Kingdom Building. The Humane Society will pick-up all collected items and the Children's Choir is quite excited about their annual ‘service project’. Please bring your donations on or before October 9th.

Listed below is the “Wish List” for the Humane Society. They specifically request PURINA® food products to keep the animals on a consistent diet. While animals await adoption and their new homes, there are other items that they could really use to ensure that the pets have a more comfortable stay in the shelter and assist in offsetting expenses. Thank you for your generosity!!!

PURINA® Dog, Cat, Puppy & Kitten Food, Large Dog Harnesses, Leashes of all size, Peanut Butter, Washcloths, Bath and Hand Towels, Paper Towels & Toilet Paper, Brown Paper & Plastic Shopping Bags, 33-Gallon & Tall Kitchen Trash Bags, Liquid Laundry Soap, Low-Dust Cat Litter



The Rite One Choir

Currently “The Rite One Choir” sings once a month at the 8:00 service as well as for some special services with The Chancel Choir.

Rehearsals are held every Thursday from 5:30 – 6:30 PM in the Church.

All interested adults are welcome to join! Please consider sharing your musical gifts with us. Interested high school and college students are also welcome.



Holy Nativity Church Chancel Choir

All adults are welcome to join us.
Weekly rehearsals are in the Church every
Thursday evening 6:30 - 8:30 PM
and Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

The Chancel Choir sings every Sunday during the 10:30 worship service and special services throughout the year.

Please consider sharing your musical gifts with us.
Interested high school and college students are also welcome.



Holy Nativity Church Children's Choir

All Children in grades 1–6 are welcome!



We rehearse every Wednesday, during the school year, starting Sept. 11, 2013
in the Choir Office from 4:00 – 5:15 PM

Come and lift your voices in song and praise. Enrich your child's life musically and spiritually!

For further information: Marqua Brunette, Director – 747-4000

Children's Ministry September 2013

Sept.	Sun. School 9:15 In our Chapel Room in the two-story building	Children's Church 10:30 In Kids' Kingdom after the children's sermon at the beginning of the worship service. They return to "big church" for communion.	Nursery 10:15 Younger children enjoy being in the nursery with Callie Mills and our wonderfully faithful nursery volunteer.
1	Not Yet... Next Week!	"x Ray Fish" Holly Melzer 896-0428 Lenka Doran 874-1048	Sandy Ciccarelli 265-9276
8	"Ask Father Steve" Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	"Fruits of the Spirit: Love" Cassie and Charlie Commander 819-5850	Kaew Sumpton 872-3782
15	Beverly McDaniel	"Fruits of the Spirit: Joy" Candace Leebrick 522-9240 Floencia Pereira 319-4870	Pat Spangler 215-5247
22	Beverly McDaniel	"Fruits of the Spirit: Peace" Kathy Brust 814-8014 Beverly McDaniel 265-8033	Teresa Durgan 913-3471
29	Beverly McDaniel	"Fruits of the Spirit: Patience" Jenny Collier 896-0679 Tiffany Ennis 784-4762	Kathy Brust 814-8014

How did you like combining Rally Day with the Blessing of the Backpacks? I thought it was great, and having the rain stop and the sun come out were surprise benefits. All of the children seemed to have a wonderful time...and that was the plan. Thank you, good parent volunteers (and a few draftees), for helping direct the children to where they should be, for helping them make their cross and bead attachments for the backpacks, and for helping monitor good manners on the waterslide. I especially thank the McClains, Laura, Steve, Katy, and Brian, for bringing over and operating the new HNES snow cone and popcorn machine. What a hit it was!

On Sunday, September 8 at 9:15, we will resume having Sunday School in our special room in the two-story (Allen) building. We have been keeping an "Ask Father Steve" box for the children to place their written questions for our rector. We have added some new questions recently in Children's Church and now we are inviting Fr. Steve to come for an interview during our Back to Sunday School time. It should be interesting. Parents are invited to attend Fr. Tom's 9:15 class in the MSP library next door, or to have coffee and visit in Battin Hall, or even to stay with us.

The new Wednesday evening services will begin on September 25 with a Holy Eucharist service at 5:30 followed by dinner. I love Fr. Steve's approach to this. He wants us to meet the needs and wants of the parish. Callie Mills will be in the nursery for the little ones. I am considering WoRM and/or Godly Play, depending upon the ages of the participating children ...or do you think your children would prefer less structured programs for mid-week? Please call me (265-8033) with your thoughts and ideas. Your input is important.

Beverly McDaniel



222 North Bonita Avenue
Panama City, FL 32401

(850) 747-4000

E-mail: info@holy-nativity.org

Website: www.holy-nativity.org



*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*

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 Attendant - Callie Mills*

THE VESTRY

*Fr. Steve Bates - Rector
Henry Breland 13-16
Edyth Brown 12-15
Joe Ciccarelli 13-16
Carolyn Cramer 12-15
Mike Dickey 11-14
Richard Doran 11-14*

*Mark Godwin - Treasurer
Michele Hahn 12-15
Mike Harding 13-16
Jim Hixson 11-14
Betty Grammer 12-15
Chris Mills 13-16
Mary Ellen Pettis 11-14
Madge Smith - Clerk*

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

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

**Nursery Provided*

***Children's Church and Nursery Provided*