



September 2021  
Volume 25, Issue 9

# the NATIVITY *Scene*

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*Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida*

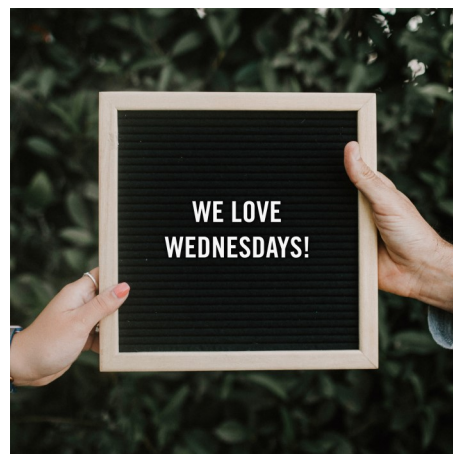
**HOLY NATIVITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
BLESSING OF THE PETS!  
OCTOBER 6, 2021 \* 5:30 PM AT THE PAVILION  
COOKOUT AFTERWARDS!**



**Wonderful Wednesdays!**  
Our Wednesday night activities will resume  
October 13, 2021!

4:30 pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal  
5:30 pm: Casual Eucharist  
6:00 pm: Supper is served  
6:30 pm: Programs for all ages  
Adult Choir Rehearsal

(With this pandemic, our schedule might change.)



## Join Leigh Gladden for Children's Choir Beginning October 13<sup>th</sup>

Leigh Gladden will be joining our Church staff working with the Children's Choir beginning in October. Our first get-together will be Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. Leigh was born and raised in Minnesota and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theater from Minnesota State University. For the past two years she has been teaching private music lessons as well as serving as music teacher at Holy Nativity School. Mark your calendars and bring your kids as we kick off a new season of Children's Choir in October. You won't want to miss it!!



### Backpack Buddy Ministry Update

We are all stocked and ready to pack  
for our school!

If you would like to join a backpack  
team or find out more info please  
email Marla Churchill at  
bmc5.marla@gmail.com.

If you would like to donate, please  
make your check out to Holy Nativity  
and note "Backpack Ministry"

Or

Pay online though our website  
(holy-nativity.org). Click on the tab  
and pick "other" and indicate it's for  
the Backpack Ministry.

### LAUNDRY LOVE MINISTRY

*Laundry Love didn't grab my attention when David introduced it. That is until Hurricane Michael hit us. I had no use of my washer /dryer for about 6 weeks, so I used the laundry mat as many of us did. My jaw dropped when I realized the amount of money I needed just to wash and dry a load. My heart went out to those people who have so much less than I did. Since then, I want to help by passing on love and hope. And I've received a blessing from them in return.*

*(From a dedicated volunteer)*

*Holy Nativity hosted a Laundry Love event on Thursday August 26th, and we were able to assist a total of **23 households** that allowed **41 individuals** to leave Wash Depot with clean clothes. For 2+ hours, our four wonderful volunteers were moving and grooving, providing all the laundry supplies and quarters needed, along with snacks and bottled water! It was great to see all the smiles.*

*Call me (David Smith) at (850) 774-6475 to find out more. You can support Laundry Love with your prayers, in person by volunteering just two hours every other month, and financially by writing "Laundry Love" in the memo line of your check or in your online donation.*

*Thank you from the bottom of my heart. David*

## Adult Christian Education - Fr Tom

As I write, I'm sitting in my Bayside chair watching as the sky darkens and the wind picks up from SSE, which from here is the direction of Tyndall AFB across the Bay. And, writing, I'm contemplating what we expect to be doing in our adult Sunday School class into this fall season. There are whitecaps on the Bay right now and rain coming our way. White rain is blocking out my view of Shell Island. Now that Summer SS is over, browsing through the Creeds of the Church and several non-canonical gospels of Early Christian Writings, and Dr Dan's leadership through Genesis, we're moving on.

Dr Dan chairs the class when I'm filling in for the Rector (we call it being Supply Priest) and when I'm preaching - - which is tremendously helpful to me and enjoyable for class members. He's finishing Genesis and, I believe, moving on to a discussion of Jesus' parables. That will be a challenging and fascinating undertaking.

For my part, on my Sundays leading the class, we'll be starting the fall season with a look, which the class requested, at 1st Peter and 2nd Peter, two anonymous epistles by two different writers, from two different early church decades. After that, probably back to discussing one or more of the Lectionary Readings for the instant Sunday; although whatever class members want to do, wherever class members want to go, is what we do.

Everyone is invited and welcome. We meet 9:15 to 10:15 Sunday mornings, between worship services, in the Parish Library. If the weather is overwhelming we sometimes meet in Battin Hall instead of braving the wind and rain. Come one, come all, come early, come on time, come late. You don't need to bring anything but your mind, and your voice if you like to participate in the discussions (if you prefer to enjoy listening quietly, that's fine too). We have plenty of Bibles, we use Study Bibles, and some folks bring their own. There's always coffee and some kind of snack, sweet and/or salty.

Usually, in our response to covid19, class sessions are live-streamed via our HNEC Facebook page and on Madge's iPhone camera. The bishop has asked that we wear facemasks inside, but suit yourself. We do honor each other with safe distancing around the table. And if someone thinks to open the doors, outside air breezes through. There's a big, big table, with lots and lots of room.

Love and fun prevail!!!

Tom+



Fr. Tom's Sunday School Class! Join us at 9:15 am in the Mary Stuart Poole Library.



## YOUTH GROUP NEWS!

LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE A STUDENT INTERESTED IN COMING TO YOUTH GROUP

**Do you have a new driver in your family?** As a church we would like to offer a blessing of the car keys to protect new drivers and all who travel with them. Please let the church office know.

### Livestream assistant

Everyone enjoys the livestream services, but help is needed maybe once a month. Training provided and recognition in the weekly bulletin!

### Ideas for youth ministry?

Do you have an idea for youth ministry or a passion to lead an activity? Let us know.

*A.J. Jeffery, Youth Director*  
*aussie\_aj@holy-nativity.org*

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## Rally Day and Blessing of the Backpacks!



## **Children's Ministry September 2021**

### **By Beverly McDaniel**

When people ask about Children's Ministry at Holy Nativity, we usually talk about our church's welcoming attitude toward children, our programs, our schedules, and activities. If they appear interested, we enjoy answering their questions and talking about what we do and why. The wonderful volunteers who help in Children's Ministry see what we do (curriculum implementation), but since this newsletter is for the parish, I want to share why (curriculum objectives).

In the Episcopal Church, our faith is founded on the Trinity: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We can use a three-legged stool to help us understand how we have come to practice our faith. When teaching the children, we often make use of alphabet memory minders: Questions? Reason, Scripture, and Tradition.

In Children's Ministry, these concepts are applied in our Christian Education lessons and actions. Although not always obvious, they are imbedded in what we want our children to understand and to have throughout their lives. While we live by faith, we, and the children, are allowed to question, to ponder, and to wonder.

Godly Play is a perfect example of using reasoning to understand our faith. The "Wonder" in each story asks us to consider what is right; what would we do? We must use reasoning to think things through. And we have the perfect book to guide us.

Scripture is the Bible, the Word of God. From it we learn how God tells us to live and it gives us the foundation on which to base our decisions. We want the children to know the Old Testament Bible stories, to hear the beauty in the Psalms, and with the New Testament, to know and love Jesus personally through his life on earth. When we question and wonder, we know to say, "Let's look in the Bible to see about that".

Tradition is the compilation of practices developed over time that have become a part of the culture of The Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church and that are recognized by most Christians throughout the world (Christmas, Easter, etc.). Also held dear are those formed in individual churches. At Holy Nativity, our children look forward to (and expect) certain traditions at our own church – Rally Day/Blessing of the Backpacks, St. Francis Blessing of the Animals, All Saints Streamers, Pajama Sunday, the Christmas Pageant, Souper Bowl Sunday, Easter, and Shell Island Sunday. These are things that we want our children to remember fondly as "the ties that bind" connections as they grow in understanding. Through these bonding experiences, we offer our children a family of faith and community of love that will provide for them a sense of belonging, safety, and security well-needed in all our lives.

As always, your comments, questions, and suggestions are welcome by cell phone, text (850-832-8324) or email (bmcdaniel00@aol.com).

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Sept. 1 John Durgan  
 Sept. 3 Jo Bruhn, Julia McLane  
 Sept. 4 Liam Cramer  
 Sept. 5 Phyllis Walker  
 Sept. 6 Shelby Roberson, Stevens Roberson  
 Sept. 7 Pat Spangler  
 Sept. 8 Susan Young  
 Sept. 10 Bill Ethridge, Gene Wicker  
 Sept. 11 Emma Crelling  
 Sept. 12 Sydney Fuller  
 Sept. 13 Grady Oenbrink  
 Sept. 14 Tom Weller  
 Sept. 16 Chad Barton  
 Sept. 18 Richard Bruhn, Jennifer Gailfoil, Victoria Williams  
 Sept. 19 Rob Doll  
 Sept. 20 Lucy Dozer, Anne Harris  
 Sept. 22 Eric Berry  
 Sept. 23 Powell Ennis  
 Sept. 25 Donna Jangula  
 Sept. 26 Liam Cantrell, Olivia Clemons, Jameson Duffy, David Smith  
 Sept. 29 Mia Carroll, Laurel Duffy, Denis Healey, Carson Shores  
 Sept. 30 Judi Lawrence



Sept. 1 Greg and Leigh Gladden  
 Sept. 2 Joanna and Terry Robinson  
 Sept. 8 William and Monica Cramer  
 Sept. 11 A.J. and Emma Jeffery  
 Sept. 12 John and Susan Messer  
 Sept. 14 Lou and Inge Churchill  
 Sept. 16 Aaron and Karen Shores  
 Sept. 17 Greg and Amy Russell  
 Sept. 21 Trey and Angie Hutt  
 Sept. 27 Henry and Nancy Breland  
 Sept. 29 Dan and Robin Finley  
 Doug and Caroline Smith  
 Sept. 30 Terry and Donna Jangula



Sue Vaccaro, Brenda Harned, Nancy Roupp, and David Smith working hard at the Wash Depot on August 26th!



Rally Day and Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday

## Worship Lay Ministry Schedule for September

Sept. 5	Sept. 12	Sept. 19	Sept. 26
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Marla Churchill, Mary Bonham, Lisa McLendon	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Marla Churchill, Amy Russell, Barbara Knowles	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Tim and Monica Phillips, Mary Mittiga and David Burris	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Dan and Robin Finley, Joanne MacPhee, Nancy Roupp
<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Tim Phillips and Terry Jangula <b>10:30 am:</b> Charles and Mary Bonham	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Dan and Laura Johnson <b>10:30 am:</b> John Hutt and Trey Hutt	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Jim Hixson and Parker McClellan <b>10:30 am:</b> Max and Joyce Dannecker	<b>Ushers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Bert Churchill and Jerry Darnell <b>10:30 am:</b> John Thompson and Chris Mills
<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Monica Phillips <b>10:30 am:</b> Ian Crelling	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Phyllis Walker <b>10:30 am:</b> Michael Fuller	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Ursula Hixson <b>10:30 am:</b> Jenny Collier	<b>Greeters</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Marla Churchill <b>10:30 am:</b> Mary Ellen Pettis
<b>Chancel Ministers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Laura Johnson <b>10:30 am:</b> Scott Clemons	<b>Chancel Ministers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Gene Wicker <b>10:30 am:</b> Nancy Breland	<b>Chancel Ministers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Theresa Townsend <b>10:30 am:</b> Kelly Roberson	<b>Chancel Ministers</b> <b>8:00 am:</b> Kathleen Wicker <b>10:30 am:</b> Rich Doran
<b>Acolyte for 10:30</b> Tyler Shores	<b>Acolyte for 10:30</b> Beka Leebrick	<b>Acolytes for 10:30</b> Shelby Roberson	<b>Acolytes for 10:30</b> Ashtyn Williams
<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Daniel Melzer	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Jenny Collier	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Tom Ledman	<b>Lector at 10:30 am</b> Rich Doran
<b>Tablecloth Ministry:</b>	<b>Tablecloth Ministry:</b>	<b>Tablecloth Ministry:</b>	<b>Tablecloth Ministry:</b>
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Will resume in October </div>		

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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. Russell Kendrick - Bishop*  
*The Rev. Steven B. Bates - Rector*  
*The Rev. Tom Weller, Associate*

## **CHURCH STAFF**

*Youth Director/Video Production- AJ Jeffery*  
*Director of Music - John Durgan*  
*Administrative Assistant - Madge Smith*  
*Children's CE Director - Beverly McDaniel*  
*Children's Choir Director - Leigh Gladden*  
*Church Bookkeeper – Kathy Mills*  
*Sexton - Deana Gailfoil*  
*Nursery Attendant - Kaew Sumpton*

## **THE VESTRY**

*Fr. Steve Bates - Rector*  
*Tricia Berry 2023*  
*Joe Ciccarelli 2024*  
*Ian Crelling 2022 Sr. Warden*  
*Anna Eberhard 2024*  
*Tiffany Ennis 2022*  
*Mark Godwin - Treasurer*  
*John Hutt 2024*

*Joanne MacPhee 2023*  
*Ivan Pereira 2022 Jr. Warden*  
*Kelly Roberson 2022*  
*Karen Shores 2023*  
*Madge Smith - Clerk*  
*John Thompson 2024*  
*Gene Wicker 2023*

## **SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES**

<i>Sunday 8:00 a.m. -</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist - Rite I</i>
<i>9:15 a.m. -</i>	<i>Adult Sunday School</i>
<i>10:30 a.m. -</i>	<i>Holy Eucharist - Rite II with Children's Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday 5:30 pm -</i>	<i>(Sept.-May) five-thirty casual service followed by supper and programs</i>

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