



December 2021
Volume 25, Issue 12

the NATIVITY *Scene*

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church • Panama City, Florida

Advent and Christmas Season Schedule



- Dec. 1 (Wed)** **A Festival of Lessons and Carols at 6 pm.**
Join us for this very special service filled with the scriptural lessons and wonderful music of the season.
- Dec. 5 (Sun)** **A Morning with St. Nicholas at the 10:30 am service.**
Join us for this special Sunday to celebrate St. Nicholas Day. There will be activities and surprises for the children.
- Dec. 12 (Sun)** **Children's Pajama Party at the 10:30 am service.**
Wear your favorite pajamas to church and bring a new set of pajamas or a stuffed animal or a bedtime storybook to be presented at church at the 10:30 am service for those who need them.
- Dec. 15 (Wed)** **Caroling in the Cove!**
Join us for our Casual Eucharist at 5:30 pm followed by supper. Then we will go caroling in our neighborhood of the Cove.
- Dec. 24 (Fri)** **Christmas Eve Services**
4:30 pm Christmas Eve Service with the Children's Christmas Pageant
10:30 pm Christmas Eve Service
- Dec. 26 (Sun)** **Sunday Services**
8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite One
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite Two

*FOR MORE INFO ON ALL THESE EVENTS PLEASE CALL
THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 747-4000.*

Advent Outreach Opportunities

- 1. Angel Tree:** Check out the Angel Tree in the foyer. Pick an ornament and sign the sheet. Return all gifts by Dec. 12th. All names are residents of St. Andrews Bay Nursing Home.
- 2. Family Services Family:** Make your check out to Holy Nativity and note on your check, "Advent Outreach Family". You can also go to our website and give online. Pick the "other" tab and note what it is for.
- 3. Operation Christmas Child:** This year you can build your shoebox online! Go to www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/
- 4. Youth "Love Thy Neighbor" Collection:** Last Day to bring supplies for Anchorage Children's Home SOAR program is Dec. 19th. Look for a list in the back of the church or in the Youth Group section of this newsletter. Place your items in the box in the foyer.



BACKPACK BUDDY MINISTRY

Thanks to everyone who participates in this vital ministry! We can always use more hands – there is an opportunity for everyone!

We will be packing an extra food bag this month to help the children over the Christmas break. Packing will be on Friday December 17 (time TBA) with delivery on Monday December 20. If you are interested in helping to pack or deliver these bags, please let us know.

No matter how much time you have to devote to our Backpack Buddies, there is a place for you in this ministry!

Want more information or have ideas for improvement? We would love to hear from you: Barbara Knowles (baybrb@aol.com or 850-832-2224) or Marla Churchill (bmc5.marla@gmail.com or 850-896-1474).



Thank you letter from Wilmer Hall

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your generous gift to Wilmer Hall for our food Ministry, which we received in November 2021. Your gift will have a lasting impact as it helps us care for each your person who is here due to poverty, abuse, neglect, and/or homelessness.

At Wilmer Hall, we make every effort to provide a warm and nurturing home to each child and young adult and surround them with people who love and support them. With this foundation, we hope to help young people become successful, independent members of our community. We do this through our residential and educational programs, serving over 150 children and young adults.

On behalf of each young person at Wilmer Hall, thank you again for your generosity and support.

Most sincerely,
Mae S. Dennis/Director of Development

Christian Education: Fr Tom

Our new assembly location, in Battin Hall, is working reasonably well for us. The lighting has been addressed and is improved, but the especially good thing is its convenience for everyone, in all weather, and immediate, adjacent to where folks are going and coming for worship services. It's a good thing, and appreciated!

We have an Advent adventure most Decembers, and I'm intending the same for the two December Sundays that I'll be leading the class, December 5 and December 12 (December 19 and December 26 are my preaching Sundays, when Dr Dan Finley leads the class, for which I am deeply grateful). For my Sundays I'm intending to present for discussion the Advent-related Christian doctrines of Virgin Birth and Second Coming. On the Second Coming session we may contemplate some out-of-the box imaginings including William Butler Yeats' startling poem "The Second Coming" - - if your imagination is as valid as mine, and Yeats', and Revelation John's, and Paul's, what will it be like, this Second Coming that we acclaim so confidently,
Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ WILL come again.

Paul believed the Second Coming was imminent. Did Jesus also believe that; as gospel writers quote him, there is scriptural evidence that he did. This anticipated Second Coming has been imminent for over two thousand years now, what do you think? In last Sunday's gospel, Luke quotes Jesus saying that there will be signs. Every generation of Christians think they see signs, do you see signs? Come to class.

Sunday School, Battin Hall, between worship services, 9:15 to 10:15. Just come! Early, Timely, Tardy, all are invited and welcome. All materials are provided, you don't NEED to bring anything except yourself.

Tom+

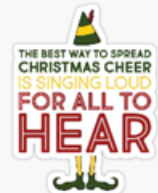


Important Dates for Youth Group!



Wednesday, 8th Dec. Youth to Cook Wednesday Night – Chili with all the sides!

Wednesday, 15th Dec. Carol the Cove. Turn-up and help decorate our towable tree then wander the Cove singing loud for all to hear!



Sunday 19th Dec. Love Thy Neighbor Collection – Last Day for Supplies.

We will happily accept any of the following or monetary donations to support Anchorage Children's Home SOAR program

Wet-wipes x 1 packet
Deodorant x 1 stick
Scarf, hat & gloves x 1 set
Toothbrush & paste x 1 set
Chapstick x 1 stick
Canned meals ring-pull x 4 cans
Emergency poncho x 1
Granola bars x 4 bars
Crackers x 4 packet
Fruit cups x 4
Candy bar x 2
Sunscreen
Bug Repellent

***Thank-you for supporting
HNEC Youth Ministry
Outreach.***

*A.J. Jeffery, Youth Director
aussie_aj@holy-nativity.org
850-319-1953*

Children's Ministry December 2021

By Beverly McDaniel

Now in Advent and looking toward Christmas, many of us will greet the holidays with mixed emotions: a sadness as we miss those we have lost, yet a happiness in the sweet traditions of the season. Being around the children brings joy just by seeing their excitement and delight. Every year I ask you to pay attention to the words of one of our pageant songs, "You Be an Angel".

"The world is needy, much is wrong. But even more is right in Bethlehem tonight."

Let us keep remembering that message and help our children gain that understanding and reassurance.

On December 5th, Nicholas, Bishop of Myra (also called St. Nicholas...and known to some as Rich Doran) will be coming to the 10:30 worship service. Please plan to arrive a little early for church and have the children come to the Godly Play Room in Kids' Kingdom to get ready to process into the church. They will stay up front and sit on the communion kneelers until Fr. Steve gathers them in for the Children's Sermon. When they leave, following the cross, they will go to the pavilion to decorate their Christmas cookies. After the service, St. Nicholas will be available for photos. Do not miss doing this. These make great "Kodak Moments" whether framed or on Facebook. After pictures, come with your children to the pavilion to pick up their decorated Christmas cookies.

The following Sunday, 12/12, is Pajama Sunday when we can wear pajamas to church and bring pajamas bring (or bedtime books or stuffed animals) for children who really need them. Please come by 10:10 so the children can gather in the Godly Play Room and go over the procedures to be a part of the Processional again. And this time they can walk up to the altar to place their gifts there, then sit on the floor or kneelers for the Children's Sermon. After church, will some of you please volunteer to help load the pajamas and other gifts so that they can be delivered the next day to Susan Bravo at Family Services downtown.

In Children's Ministry, we want our children to have lessons and experiences that are both meaningful and memorable. Last year's Christmas Pageant on a windy, rainy, and cold Christmas Eve certainly fit with memorable, and being back together, inside our dear church, this year is much more meaningful (and appreciated) now. Although new performers may be ageing in or aging out, we will stick with the original script as written by Matthew and Luke.

Of course, we need volunteers to sign up for specific duties such as Costume Chair and costumers, set designers, etc., or help with cues and prompts. The signup will go out soon on Signup Genie. There will also be online signup for the pageant participants. If several children sign for the same part, they should also make a second choice marked with a 2. Names will be drawn on Pajama Sunday. Please note that the key roles that require being at practice are marked with stars. Costume fittings will be on Sundays after church and as scheduled online with costumers.

Does this Children's Ministry article seem like a rerun to you? Much of it is, because I mistakenly thought last month that we were combining the November and December newsletters. Let me know if you noticed and you will receive a quarter from me to reward your attentiveness. Please tell me or call or text me (850-832-8324). I welcome and appreciate your comments and suggestions.

Sending you all much love and best wishes for a Meaningful, Memorable, and Merry Christmas.

Birthdays

Dec. 1 Dunkin McLane, Alan Tremaine
 Dec. 2 Lee Gagnet, Lora Healey
 Dec. 5 Jennifer Ethridge, Isabella Smith
 Dec. 6 Terry Jangula, Will Melzer, Jim Roberson
 Dec. 7 Carolyn Cramer
 Dec. 10 Matt Cole, Greg Russell
 Dec. 11 Lara Provencher
 Dec. 14 Grace Ennis
 Dec. 16 Mark Brust, Marla Churchill
 Dec. 17 John Niziol
 Dec. 18 Ted Gagnet, Margaret Scott, Ashtyn Williams
 Dec. 21 Nancy Roupp, Evan Ward
 Dec. 23 David Landreth, Kathleen Wicker
 Dec. 26 Dianne Hodges, Jerry Shores
 Dec. 27 Lindsey Crelling
 Dec. 29 Anna Eberhard, John Moore
 Dec. 31 Michael Fuller, Victoria Lithway

Anniversaries

Dec. 2 Patrick and Cassie Casady
 Steven and Laura McClain
 Dec. 7 Terrell and Georgie Hartzog
 Dec. 9 Joseph and Carolyn Parell
 Dec. 18 Michael and Mimi Morrow
 Dec. 23 Chuck and Barbara Knowles
 Dec. 27 Bill and Jennifer Ethridge
 Dec. 28 Eric and Tricia Berry
 Dec. 29 Mike and Mary Ellen Harding
 Dec. 30 Gene and Rhonda Miller

Wonderful Wednesdays In December!

December 8

Youth Group is cooking Chili!

December 15

Caroling in the Cove!

The Leebricks are cooking!

4:30 pm: Children's Choir Rehearsal

5:30 pm: Holy Eucharist

6:00 pm: Dinner is served

6:00 pm: Programs for everyone

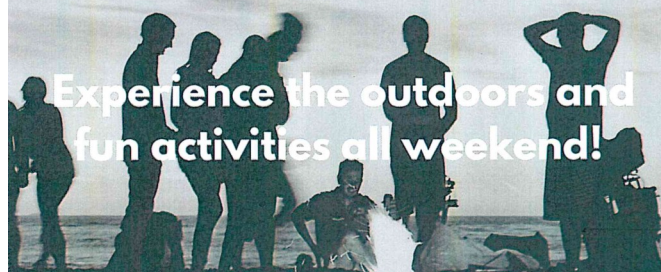
Adult Choir Rehearsal



HOLY NATIVITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FAMILY RETREAT AT CAMP BECKWITH

Friday, April 22-
Sunday April 24, 2022



Experience the outdoors and
fun activities all weekend!

All Ages Invited! 0-99 years

\$120 per person

(Accommodation

Upgrades & Downgrades Available)

Includes room, activities,
& 5 meals

Contact Church Office or Tricia Berry to register!

407-456-0232 TNE1025@hotmail.com

Dec. 5	Dec. 12	Dec. 19	Dec. 26
Altar Guild: Rhonda Miller, Victoria Williams, Nancy Breland	Altar Guild: Marla Churchill, Mary Bonham, Lisa McLendon	Altar Guild: Marla Churchill, Amy Russell, Barbara Knowles	Altar Guild: Tom and Monica Phillips, Mary Mittiga, David Burris (includes Christmas)
Ushers 8:00 am: Tim Phillips and Tim Pride 10:30 am: John Hutt and Trey Hutt	Ushers 8:00 am: Jim Hixson and Parker McClellan 10:30 am: Max and Joyce Dannecker	Ushers 8:00 am: Bert Churchill and Jerry Darnell 10:30 am: John Thompson and Chris Mills	Ushers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Charles and Mary Bonham
Greeters 8:00 am: Monica Phillips 10:30 am: Ian Crelling	Greeters 8:00 am: Ursula Hixson 10:30 am: Michael Fuller	Greeters 8:00 am: Marla Churchill 10:30 am: Jenny Collier	Greeters 8:00 am: Phyllis Hunt 10:30 am: Jani Smith
Chancel Ministers 8:00 am: Joanne MacPhee and Theresa Townsend 10:30 am: Lisa McLendon and Scott Clemons	Chancel Ministers 8:00 am: Dan and Laura Johnson 10:30 am: Joe Ciccarelli and Nancy Breland	Chancel Ministers 8:00 am: Gene and Kathleen Wicker 10:30 am: Scott Clemons and Kelly Roberson	Chancel Ministers 8:00 am: Gene and Kathleen Wicker 10:30 am: Joyce Dannecker and Scott Clemons
Acolytes for 10:30 Tyler Shores, Bailey Melzer, Carson Berry, Will Melzer, Beka Leebrick	Acolytes for 10:30 Beka Leebrick, Charlotte Eberhard, Mathison Crelling, Esteban Pereira, Kate Leebrick	Acolytes for 10:30 Ashtyn Williams, Grady Oenbrink, Fin Oenbrink, Laney Lee, Tyler Shores	Acolytes for 10:30 No Servers
Lector at 10:30 am Rich Doran	Lector at 10:30 am Ivan Pereira	Lector at 10:30 am Ivan Pereira	Lector at 10:30 am Michael Lovchuk

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4:30 PM

Ushers: Jim Hixson, Parker McClellan, Max and Joyce Dannecker
Chancel Ministers: TBA
Acolytes: Brody Fuller, John Moore, Alex Moore, Tom Moore, Tyler Shores

10:30 PM

Ushers: Russell and Beth Brock
Chancel Ministers: Theresa Townsend and Joanne MacPhee
Acolytes: Jack Thompson, Jacob Brock, Joseph Thompson, Beka Leebrick, James Thompson

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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. 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>