

Glad Tidings

Pentecost/Advent

November 2011

The Church of the Nativity,
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The last Sunday of this month begins the season of Advent. Advent is the time each year when we begin to look more intentionally at the coming of Christ into the world at Christmas. And we anticipate his promise that he will come again. In the meantime, it is up to each of us to prepare the way, to make him known in new and different ways. The themes of Advent are that we are to be prepared. We should be ready because we don't know at what time Jesus will return.

During the first two weeks of Advent this year several of us from Nativity will be on our mission trip to Liberia. We depart on November 29th and we will return on December 15th. As the time approaches, I find that I am getting more and more excited. We are preparing to be welcomed into the hearts and homes of the our brothers and sisters in Christ. They are preparing for the coming of Christ into their midst in a new way; and we are preparing to be



stirred anew by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in their faith and devotion. Many of you have contributed gifts, or have donated funds toward this mission trip. (If you have not yet contributed, the list of things we need is found on a following page of this newsletter.) Your gifts allow us to reach out to the people of Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church and the children of the Rupel E. Marshall Primary School. The school children are in the adjacent photo. This trip will enable us to forge bonds that will help all of us experience the love of Christ doing a new thing. This trip is not about a group of American Christians pouring out charity on less fortunate Liberians. Rather it

is about all of us learning to celebrate the coming of Christ into our midst in new and different ways. It is about the realization of how much we each have to share with one another. It will allow all of us to love and to be loved—to serve and to be served.

In addition to the gifts which we will bring, I would like to ask each of you to take some time to do something else. Please take a few moments at this busy time of year to write Christmas cards or notes to those who are welcoming us, to the adults as well as the children. Let them know that you are praying for them and that you celebrate with them at this joyous time of year. And then, if you would take a few moments each and every day that we are away to pray that God in Christ will come into our lives afresh. Pray for the members of Nativity that are traveling. Pray for the people of Saint Stephen's Church. Pray for the children of the Rupel E. Marshall Primary School. If we are all prayerful, this mission trip has the potential to breathe new life and the power of the Holy Spirit into each of our lives. The people in Episcopal congregations thousands of miles apart will experience the breaking in of Christ into the world in powerful new ways. And all of us will be moved by the faith which we share.

Advent is a time of anticipation and great expectation. I can't wait to experience what the love of Christ is going to accomplish in the lives of the Church of the Nativity, Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, Monrovia, and in the youngsters of the Rupel E. Marshall Primary School. I have no idea what to expect. I only know that when God intervenes in human lives, it will exceed our wildest expectations. May each of you have a blessed Advent season. And may we all be profoundly blessed by the new things that the coming of Christ is doing among us!

Tom+

**The Church of the Nativity,
Cedarcroft**

Vestry

Class of 2012

Douglas Knowles

Jonathan Pearce

Julia Van De Wille

CLASS OF 2013

Melvina Coleman

Lee Smith

Deborah Tupper

Class of 2014

Neal Baroody

Harold Hardinger

Maria Hardinger

Officers

Neal Baroody

Senior Warden

Craig Hart

Junior Warden

Margaret Dowding

Treasurer

Julia Van De Wille

Registrar

Staff

The Rev. Thomas B. Carter

Rector

The Rev. Anthony Hollis

Priest Associate

Wallington Hankerson, Jr.

Director of Music

Patricia Schwarzman

Administrative Assistant

Cheryl Hazel

Christian Education Director



**November
Birth Flower**

The chrysanthemum is the November birthflower. The chrysanthemum means compassion, friendship and secret love. This flower can be red, white or yellow. Chrysanthemums have been grown by the Chinese for over 2,000 years. This flower is also a symbol of the sun. Chrysanthemum was named after the Greek word which means gold flower. It is the national flower of Japan and symbolizes the Japanese Emperor. In Europe the chrysanthemum is a symbol of death and is used for funerals or on graves. The chrysanthemum flower is actually a powerful anti-septic and antibiotic! It is used in traditional Chinese medicine to treat high blood pressure and angina.

Birthdays

- 1 Barbara Weldon
- 2 Betsy Dunn
- 11 Nancy Curry
- 11 Roseda Marshall-Ochillo
- 12 John Southall
- 19 Priscilla Vaughan
- 19 Zachary Hoover
- 21 Jason Morrison
- 22 Sally Carter
- 29 Seth Low

Anniversaries

- 5 Donald & Betty Hoatson
- 14 Leonard & Lynette Inniss
- 25 John & Carol Southall
- 28 Jonathan & Esther Pearce

Vestry Retreats to Upper Room on October 8

Reported by
Maria Hardinger and Debbie Tupper

Saturday, October 8, 2011, the Rector, Vestry and Officers of the Church of the Nativity gathered at the church for their annual Fall retreat. All, with exception of Junior Warden Craig Hart and Senior Warden Neal Baroody, attended.

Led by the priest, Father Paul Gennett, they spent the day exploring the mission of our parish. Through reflection, reading of scripture, discussion and prayer, they examined our current mission, where we hope to journey and their individual, personal roles in that mission (that mission "incarnational.")

The mission of the Church of the Nativity is to faithfully love and serve Jesus Christ by embracing all people through worship, outreach, and fellowship in His name.

Meeting together and in small groups of three, they examined how the mission of Nativity is fulfilled today in our church activities. Some of the current Officers and Vestry recalled the retreat that drafted the mission 9 years ago, and the group affirmed that the statement still holds as a viable mission statement for the parish.

After lunch, the small groups spent the afternoon in reading, discussion, prayer and reflection on 3 short scripture passages from Isaiah 43:18-19, Isaiah 55:10-11, and Jeremiah, 31: 33-34. After reading aloud each passage, they considered, **"Who are we...who are we called to be/become...how will we live this in our lives and pass it on to others?"**

At the end, the group gathered and shared their individual thoughts about their own roles as church members in fulfilling Nativity's mission in the future. Reflections shared included: becoming a lay Eucharistic minister, illuminating the bell tower, creating an outdoor Stations of the Cross, facilitating communication in the congregation, creating more opportunities for

fellowship within the congregation, ministering to one another.

Let us each ask ourselves, "Who are we...who are we called to be/become and how will we live this in our lives and pass it on to others?" May we each pray alone and with others, and bring to life what we discover.



CALENDAR

November

November 1-Tuesday-All Saints Day

November 5-Saturday-Sandwich Saturdays--
9-9:45 a.m.

November 6-Sunday-Bring food for
Cares Pantry

November 12-Saturday-Spaghetti Dinner in
Hart Hall-4:00 p.m.

November 13-Sunday-3 Ring Theater in Hart
Hall-11-6 p.m.

November 14-Monday-Vestry Meeting-
7:00 p.m.

November 18-20-Friday, Saturday & Sunday-
WORLD, Inc. Annual Meeting, etc.

November 20-Sunday-Nativity Book Club

November 20-Sunday-3 Ring Theater in Hart
Hall-11-6 p.m.

November 21-Monday-Outreach Meeting-
7:00 p.m.

November 22-Tuesday-Pray for Peace-Calvary
Baptist Church, 120 W. Pennsylvania Ave.,
Towson

November 24-Thursday-Thanksgiving Day-
10:30 a.m. service

November 26-Saturday-3 Ring Theater in Hart
Hall-11-6 p.m.

November 29-Tuesday-Nativity group leaves
for Liberia

Rev. Thomas Carter celebrates his 11th
year as Nativity's Rector on
November 13th.

Milestones

Wallington Hankerson, Jr. celebrates his
7th year as Nativity's Music Director on
November 28th.

world inc

Women Organized Resources for Liberia's Development

Celebrates

20TH ANNIVERSARY

And You Are Invited

Advertise In Our Souvenir Program

Service

Corporate - \$200.00

Inside Front or Back - \$150.00

Full Page - \$ 100.00

½ Page - \$50.00; ¼ Page - \$25.00

Business Card - \$15.00

List of names - \$5.00 per person

Empowering

Friday, Nov 18, 2011

Meet and Greet (Social Evening)

5:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Church of the Nativity,
419 Cedarcroft Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21212

Rendering

Victory

Saturday, Nov 19, 2011

Seminar & Business Meeting

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Church of the Nativity,
419 Cedarcroft Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21212

Impact

Saturday, Nov 19, 2011

Dinner Ball/Awards

7 PM – 11 PM

The Radisson Hotel at Cross Keys, Falls Rd, Baltimore, MD

Caring

Sunday, Nov 20, 2011

Thanksgiving Service

12 Noon

Bethel World Outreach Ministries
5436 Harford Road, Baltimore MD 21214

Educating

Information and directions: Ameera - 443-722-1509, Roseda - (443) 352-8851 or Yvonne- (410) 675-0179

NATIVITY FALL 2011 SUNDAY ADULT FORUM DISCUSSIONS

SCHEDULE FOR November 2011
0900 to 1000, Hart Hall

Date	Topic	Presenter
November 6	Stand Up for Kids	Alicia Gittens
November 13	The Spread of Christianity in Africa contrasted with its practice worldwide	Lou Willett
November 20	Liberia: History of the Country and Church in Liberia	Jonathan Pearce
November 27	Genesis and History of Advent Celebrations in the Christian Church	Sam Dowding



FRIENDSHIP MINISTRY

As we rapidly come to the end of another successful season of caring, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people: Sarah

Knowles, Suzanne Windsor, Pat Kimmel, Amy Norwood, Betty Hoatson, Doris Webb, Sue Brookman, Priscilla Vaughan, Leona Carter, Barbara Weldon, and Bill Hallam for their caring effort in mailing out Greeting Cards for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Thinking of You cards for the past 11 months.

Many people have mentioned how much they enjoyed receiving mail from their Church family because it comes with love that is 24/7.

Please let me know if you would like to join our effort as a new member or if you have ideas for additional outreach for our Church family. We would love to hear from you.

Mary Beth Willett, Chair
410-823-3359

Special Forum Presentation November 6, 2011

We are having a guest speaker from *Stand Up for Kids* for this Forum discussion.

They work with homeless children. They do Outreach and provide access to services such as food and shelter. Please mark your calendars so you can find out how to help *the least of His children*.

SHOEBOXES FOR SEAFARERS

Sponsored By
Baltimore International
Seafarers' Center

This annual gift distribution to crews of all nationalities and faiths make a big difference in their lives. Months or years after Christmas, crews returning to Baltimore thank us for their gifts. Many seafarers can't even do their own shopping because of tighter security rules and port stays as short as 5 hours. Your gifts **brighten** their lonely lives.

Paperback Bibles and extra shoeboxes are available in the Church foyer.

Christmas at Sea Wish List

Please include the following in each box:

- A paperback Bible or New Testament, in a modern translation readable by those whose first language is not English.
- A greeting or a piece of paper with the name and address of your church, in case the seafarer is able to send a thank-you note. (Most can't, but a few do.)
- Toiletries, sealed (no unwrapped soap or toothbrushes etc;) and please remember that almost all our seafarers are male.
- A warm hat or a warm scarf.
- And some of the following: pens and pads, warm socks or gloves, playing cards, postcards of Baltimore, etc.



Nativity Parish Library

By Catherine Bishop

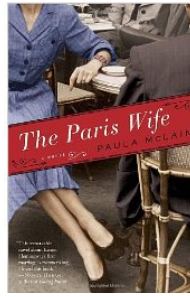
This year we celebrate the 400th anniversary of the issuance of the Authorized or King James Version the English Bible.

There have been several magazine articles concerning the history of this edition and its influence. I draw your attention to two of these articles.

Christian History published its 100th issue devoted to the event. It concerned a general history concerning the state of England as of 1604 when James I became king of England following the death of Queen Elizabeth, and with the development of the use of this Version down through the years.

The October 11th issue of *The Living Church* has an article entitled "The Word, King James the peacemaker and his Bible." This credits James as a large influence on the selection of the group of scholars who provided the translation.

These are posted in the New Books area of the library. If you are interested in reading them, I will appreciate your doing so in the library and returning them to the shelf when you are finished.



Nativity Book Club

By Catherine Bishop

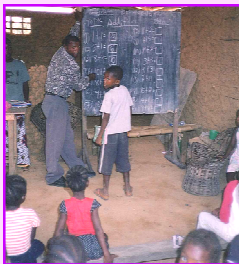
The next meeting of the Nativity Book Club will be on Sunday, November 20 at 2:30 p.m. The book will be *Paris Wife*, by Paula McClain. Sarah Knowles will lead the discussion, and Catherine Bishop will provide refreshments.

This is a novel about Hadley Richardson, the first wife of Ernest Hemingway. It takes place in the time of the fast living era in Paris which has been labeled the Lost Generation.

"Why couldn't I be happy?" she asks herself at the beginning of the novel. "And what was happiness anyway?" She has just met the younger Hemingway at a party in Chicago in 1920; "I was 29, feeling almost obsolete, but Ernest was 21 and white hot with life."

Obviously, I have not yet read the book, but every book is grist for the book club members to look at life and society and compare it with our own times. These discussions are stimulating. The book can be found in bookstores and is available for the kindle. Please join us for our next meeting.

Items for Liberia Trip



The following are the items that we are taking with us to make Christmas stockings for the children in Liberia. This is not an exhaustive list. Be creative. What would you put in a stocking here?

- School supplies: Back packs, Pencils, Pens, Pencil Sharpeners, Rulers, Erasers, Small Calculators
- Small Toys or Games, etc. (nothing electrical or requiring batteries)
Things that would be appropriate for a Christmas stocking
- Individually wrapped hard candy and treats, especially Christmas candy
- Light weight summer clothing, Children's underwear, Socks
- Hair bows, ties, hairbands, hair pics
- Toiletries (small sizes), Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Shampoo, Hair care items, Soap

If you would like to make a monetary contribution to help offset some of the cost of the trip, make your check payable to The Church of the Nativity and mark "Liberia Mission Trip" in the memo portion of the check.

Spaghetti Dinner

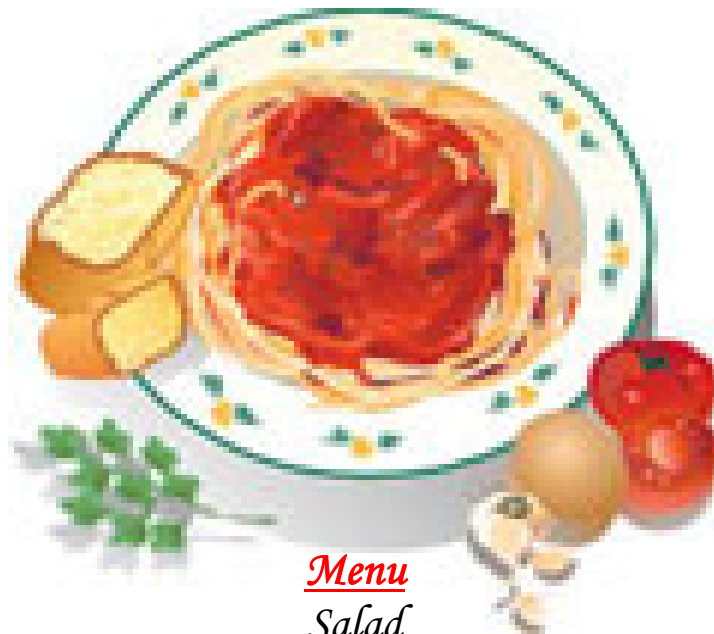
*Church of the Nativity, Cedarcroft
419 Cedarcroft Road
(Corner of York Road and Cedarcroft Road)
Baltimore, MD 21212*

410 433-4811

Saturday, November 12, 2011

4p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Dine –In or Carry-Out



Menu

Salad

Pasta and Sauce

Rolls and Butter

Italian Ice

Coffee, Iced Tea, Milk

Vegetarian Sauce Available

Tickets

\$10.00 Adults \$5.00—Children Ages 5-12

Children Under 5—Free

A Bake Table Will Also Be Available



The mission of the Church of the Nativity is to faithfully love and serve Jesus Christ by embracing all people through worship, outreach, and fellowship in His name.



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*Remember
our
Nativity
members
who are
home-
bound or
in health
care
facilities :*

- Edenwald**
Josephine Disney
- Genesis Health Care Center**
Betty Hall
- The Maples at Towson**
Thelma Crispell
- Stella Maris**
Peggy Tice
- Active Day at Parkville**
Stephanie Yateman

- Shut-ins at Home**
Jeannette Battenfeld
Charles Clayton
Lovejoy Clayton
Nancy Curry
Mary Gardner
Rachel Marshall
Helen Whiteman

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED