



The Wheel



Celebrate Christmas at St. Catherine's

Christmas Eve

- **5:00 PM – Family Holy Eucharist**
A special music prelude with carol singing begins fifteen minutes before the service. The worship service starts with the procession at 5:00. All the children are invited to process with the choir and clergy as the baby Jesus makes his way with us to the crèche at the altar. The Youth Choir will share their voices as their Christmas gift to us. The nursery will be available. A festive reception follows in the Parish Hall.

- **10:30 PM – The Christ Mass**
Service begins with Christmas Vigil music 10:30-11:00, featuring our Adult Choir and special guest string quartet. The Christ Mass procession starts at 11:00 PM. The solemn and beautiful Christmas celebra-

tion brings the glory of our Anglican tradition to the greatest story ever told as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Following is a festive reception in the Parish Hall with champagne and an opportunity to wish each other a joyous Christmas.

Christmas Day

- **One service, 10:30 AM** – We hold our celebration of the incarnation with an intimate and casual service on Christmas morning. One of our wonderful traditions at St. Catherine's is to bring with us our favorite gift to tell about during announcement time. We invite you to bring yours this year and share with us how it has brightened your life as we celebrate the greatest gift of all – Jesus Christ our Savior.

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*From all of our staff
we wish you and yours a most blessed and joyous
Christmas and Christmastide!*

*The people of
St. Catherine's seek
to share in the love
that Jesus Christ has
for us and the world by
welcoming, accepting,
nurturing, and serving
all people through
the power of the
Holy Spirit.*

We Welcome You!

VESTRY ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to the following persons who were elected to three-year terms on December 12: **Nancy Denton, Bill Lee, Bob Pepper** and **Gail McGill**. We also thank **Steve Diffley** and **Deborah Hurd** for allowing their names to be put in nomination. The Vestry is at the very heart of our life together. Every one of these six individuals willingly offered their time and talents and considerable commitment to our life together. We are deeply grateful for their generosity.

Be an Emmaus Elf

Now our annual tradition, we will go to Emmaus House in Atlanta on Christmas Eve morning to be helper "elves" at their annual Christmas Festival. Please sign up in the Opportunities for Ministry in your bulletin or contact Nadine Pope, 770-973-9057 or ronazaATmindspring.com. We always have lots of fun, and it's guaranteed to get you in the holiday spirit!

NEEDED: 1500 granola bars! – to be given as snacks to the children at the festival. Please

leave your donations in or near the baskets in the Outreach Corner across from the Parlor, by Wed., December 22.





Holiday schedule

- **Sunday, December 26**
Worship at 7:30 and 10:30 ONLY, no 8:45 or 11:15 service
No Church School or breakfast.
- **Sunday, January 2**
Worship at 7:30 and 10:30 ONLY, no 8:45 or 11:15 service
No Church School
- **Office dates** — The church office will be closed on these dates:
- Thursday, Dec. 23 starting at noon, through Mon., Dec. 23
- Friday, Dec. 31

Flowers & candles

The 2011 schedule is now available in the foyer for you to sign up to dedicate altar flowers or candles in memory of thanksgiving for a loved one.

HOLY BAPTISM

Next date:
January 9

Please check with the office for more information and to request the customary booklet about Holy Baptism.

Continuing The Journey

By Amma Susan+

The past few weeks have been very exciting ones for those participating in The Journey. We have completed the Inquirers stage and eight people who have a desire to continue on have entered the Christian Formation stage of The Journey, been joined by their personal sponsor, and welcomed by the congregation as catechumens (adults seeking baptism) or baptized persons seeking to renew their baptismal vows. The congregation has promised to support these Journeyers with their prayers, and by sharing with them her ministry, bearing their burdens and forgiving and encouraging them.

The services have been very moving, not only for The Journey participants, but I know for myself and I suspect for many others who have witnessed this formal commitment to a period of preparation for

these next steps in their faith journey. I think it is because it lifts up for us the significance of our own baptism, the blessings of the life in Christ that we have received through baptism, and the fulfilling ministry to which that baptism ordains us all.

I wish you all could have been there for our first session of this next stage of The Journey. The excitement was palpable as the community already formed between inquirers and catechists was being joined by their eight new sponsors. It was wonderful to see those new relationships beginning as this microcosm of the body of Christ at St. Catherine's expanded to embrace and join their faith journeys with these seekers amongst us. The Journey continues, enriched by these new relationships, the congregation's commitment of support, and sustained by your prayers. *Deo Gratias.*

Prayers of the People

For the Sick

Lillian Vu, Vi Pratt, Joe Tarentino, Linda Smith, Ray Cole, Marilyn Bradbury, Jean Wintrow, Beatrice Ackenbom-Kelly, Ingrid Carmines, Sharon Parisi, Alexandra Pepper, Madison Cox, Alycen, David Madison, Barbara Cordery, Charlie Walton, Nancy Riley, Lita DiPietrao, Richard Newton, Louise Taylor, T.P. Hall, Donna Woods, Bryan M., Jean Huffstetler, Melissa Bryan, Bud Bryan, Lori Brown, Vera Bibbings, Cindy, Jason, Eric, Kate & Eve Marshall, Tommy Williams, Jim Robertson, Carol Whitney, Marguerite Greene, Raymond, Guy, William Gaines, Annie Lipsitz, Rex Whitehead, Elaine D'Aubert, Howard Sherman, Page Loyd, James, Day, Lou Cappiello, Marilyn Holmes, Jed & Ashley Minyard, Julie Brannock, Arlene Brooks, Rachel Tezza, Ann Rowland, Sherri Cromer, Hugh Webb, Joe & Cheryl, Clifford Nesbitt, George Lindley, Felicia Murray, the Robinson Family, Dick Kareken, Michael Dillson, Oliver Mosier, Jack Drinkwater, Virginia Chandler, Greg Lavigne, Jim Morrison, George Williams, Freddie

Williams, Katherine Hilliard, Carol Crosslin, Pat Weills, the Floyd Family, IanMcLeod, Dave Norton, Ann Correll, Eric Layton, Luke McWilliams, Debbie Fronzak, Julia Ann Tinsley, Michael Goodman, Angie

Before Surgery

Fleming Rowell, 12/29/2010; Margaret White, Steve Wolfe's mother, 12/29/2010; Liz Burlas, former parishioner, 1/20/2011

Deceased

The Rev. Patty Roberts, friend of Tinka & Bill Ivey; Steve Cole, friend of Susan & John Martin; Bonnie Floyd, family friend of Chris Morris; Earl Potts, father of Nancy Denton's friend; John Snook, Peggy Snook's brother-in-law

Parish Cycle of Prayer

(12/19) Lynne Gates; Barri Gehrand; Daniel, Lilibet, Megan, Ian & David Goldman; Steve, Valerie & Gabi Gosnell; Jim & Bobbye Greene; **(12/26)** Matt, Missy, Caroline & Audrey Grace Greene; Germany Greer; Ron, Susan & Joe Greger; Bette

Hamilton, Adam & Eric Handell

Birthdays

(12/20) Kendall Cook; (12/21) Bob Olliffe, Joe Tarentino, Pat Tarentino, George Alexander; (12/22) Knox Gale, Will Selby, Brad Corbin; (12/23) Michelle LaGardé, Noelle Mace, James Nesbitt, Natalie Frank; (12/24) Alex Dillson, Eleanore Pearson; (12/25) Ron Greger, Ben Martin, Al Jones; (12/26) Karen Kraeger; (12/27) Deana Cole, Vera Bibbings; (12/28) Ron Bergeron; (12/29) Nat Whitlow, John Christian; (12/30) Nadine Pope, Caroline Spessard, Amy Hunkler; (1/1) Carol Fey; (1/2) Carson Gardner, Scott Heuke; (1/4) Stan Dickson, Todd Magill, Katie Martin; (1/5) Celia Bowers-Dean; (1/6) Karen Ordway, Stephanie Yucius; (1/7) Martha Bowden, Gaby Sutton, Caroline Gardner, Charles Santivanez, Cameron Hollis, Lauren Hollis

Anniversaries

(12/21) Tom & Ann Snead; (12/23) Chris & Jan Potter; (12/27) Walt & Gail McGill; (12/27) Meg & Larry Boyd; (12/27) Donald & Anne Clark

They're the Cat's Meow!



If you ordered our St. Catherine's mementos by The Cat's Meow®, please pick them up after services on Sunday, Dec. 19. For questions contact Eleanore Pearson.

Elizabeth Inn

Laundry team has two dates this month — Tue., Dec. 28 AND Wed., Dec. 29 — please consider joining us for either — Contact Fred Massey, 404-731-4466 or f_massey2A@hotmail.com. We also prepare and serve dinner on the 28th of every month — contact Connie Bergeron, 770-951-1411, and Tracy Buckalew, 770-956-9609.

Ministry Focus: PL&F

This month we celebrate the life and work of our Parish Life & Fellowship Ministry Team. To find out more about their activities please check the Opportunities for Ministry in your bulletin, or contact conveners Pat Pepper and Eleanor Pearson.

Why Stewardship?

By Father Jim

Our Stewardship 2011 ingathering continues. On December 16 the budgeting process for 2011 began. We are asking each and every household at St. Catherine's—whether you've pledged in the past or not—to consider making a pledge to our congregation's budget in 2011. It is not too late and we need everyone in these difficult economic times to seriously consider making a commitment to the mission and ministry of this congregation! It does not matter the size of your pledge; what matters is your commitment. On the income side of the budget, we have

- received (as of December 16) 202 pledges for \$624,186 compared to 214 pledges in 2010 for \$634,580.
- 13 households who pledged last year and have not yet made a commitment for 2011.
- received 14 new pledges compared to 33 new pledges in 2010 (increasing new pledges was one of our principle goals for 2011).
- increased or maintained our pledge (71.3% of us) and decreased our pledge (18.3% of us).

Why stewardship?

Clearly, the world's economy is not all that bright. Talk of it getting better is for many of us just that—talk. While we talk about the abundance of God's blessings at St. Catherine's, the economic numbers paint a picture quite the opposite. Families are worried about jobs and homes, and all the while food, gas and prices overall seem only headed up. Listening to the 24 hour news cycle quickly challenges any sense of abundance we legitimately feel in our spiritual lives and in this community of faith. There is a tension between our sense of abundance and the world's sense of scarcity.

Why stewardship?

Yes, we must develop and support an operating budget that is \$701,410 in 2010. Yes, we must fund salaries for staff members who work tirelessly. Yes, we must fund programs that nurture our children's faith, walk with our youth on their journey to



adulthood, spiritually feed our adults as they face the many challenges of today's world, and reach into that world to

build shelter, feed the hungry, and educate. Yes, we must be good stewards of the facilities God has given us by heating and cooling them, providing lights, and repairing them when they are broken. All of these are good enough answers for "Why Stewardship" but not THE answer.

Why Stewardship?

THE answer is we "do" stewardship because God first loved us and our stewardship is our response to that love. Because God gives freely and we are made in God's image, we are "wired" to give. Yes, giving our time, talent, and treasure to the Church and to other worthy organizations is a manifestation of our love for God and a desire to say thank you to God. As we become more and more aware of God's blessings our response is thanks giving. Stewardship is that journey of becoming more and more aware of God's abundant blessings in our life.

We ask your prayers and support in the coming weeks. We've got our work cut out for us. We will be faithful and hopeful. We trust God to be faithful and we know and trust that God will journey with us through the challenges that will face us as we prepare a budget for 2011. We want to say thank you for your commitment to St. Catherine's. May you and your family know the light of Christ's love and peace as we approach this Christmas season.

Please return your pledge at worship services this Sunday or send to the church office (mailing address: 571 Holt Rd., Marietta GA 30068) as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available at church or on our website at www.stcatherines.org/forms/2010%20Stewardship%20Pledge%20card.pdf.

Time for Time and Talent – GO NOW TO www.surveystcatherines.org. Please take a few moments to peruse and reply with pledging your time and talents for St. Catherine's. (If you prefer to submit a paper form, please call the office at 770-971-2839 or pick a Time & Talent form at church.)

Advent and Christmas at St. Catherine's



This week at St. Catherine's

Monday, 12/20

Susan's Day Off

7:00PM Kneeler Project
7:30PM Boy Scout Troop 713

Tuesday, 12/21

7:00AM Eucharist & Book Study
9:00AM Scrapbook Camp
10:00AM Morning Prayer
10:30AM Staff Meeting
7:30PM Vestry

Wednesday, 12/22

5:30AM MUST Breakfast
6:15PM Youth Choir
7:30PM Adult Choir

Thursday, 12/23

12:00PM Church Office closed
6:30PM EFM
7:00PM Men's Bible Study

Friday, 12/24

Jim's Day Off

Church Office closed

5:00PM Family Eucharist
8:00PM A.A.
10:30PM Christ Mass

Saturday, 12/25

10:30AM Christmas Day

Sunday, 12/26

7:30AM Holy Eucharist
10:00AM No Church School
10:30AM Holy Eucharist

Blood Drives 2011

Mark your new 2011 calendar now for giving at St Catherine's as follows:

February 22, April 26, June 28, August 23, October 25, December 27. To schedule your time go to www.givelife.org or call 1.800.RED.CROSS (733.2767).

- Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve: Worship with special music, followed by Festive Receptions
 - Family Holy Eucharist - Worship begins at 5:00 pm
 - The Christ Mass - begins with Christmas Vigil music at 10:30-11:00 pm, procession at 11:00 pm
- Dec. 25 – Christmas Day – Holy Eucharist at 10:30 am
- Dec. 26 – Worship at 7:30 and 10:30 ONLY, no Church School or Breakfast
- Jan. 2 – Worship at 7:30 and 10:30, no Church School
Rector's Open House, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Christmas Eve Receptions



Festive receptions follow the 5:00 and 11:00 Christmas Eve services. We invite you to donate finger foods for the reception, please bring them to the Parish Hall prior to the service you attend this night. **Help is needed for set up and clean up** for the receptions, please sign up on the Opportunities for Ministry in your bulletin or contact Pat Pepper or Eleanore Pearson.

Reflection of the Day

Online now through Epiphany (January 6)! A special annual tradition at St. Catherine's is our booklet of reflections on Advent and Christmas written by our own



parishioners. Copies are available at church, and be sure to check on our website throughout the season for your Reflection of the Day!

Christmas Communion

If you or someone you know someone is ill or shut in and will not be able to attend Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services, please notify the church office so we may schedule a Eucharistic Visitor to bring communion to their homes.

Memory Wreath for Christmas

We have placed a Memory Wreath on the gate at the entrance to the Memorial Garden. If you find yourself missing someone special to you who has died, we invite you to bring an ornament or memento and hang it on the wreath in memory of your loved one. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Gail McGill.

Special Christmas Fund

Each Christmas our parishioners give to create a Special Christmas Fund, used for members of this congregation who have suffered in any number of ways, to support them at a time of year when limited resources are painfully evident. The Rector, in consultation with the staff, makes the decision as to how this fund will be used. If you would like to give to this fund simply write a check to St. Catherine's and clearly mark it for the Special Christmas Fund. Any amount is gratefully accepted.

Recycle your Advent wreath



If you made an Advent wreath at church and took it home, after you are done with it we would appreciate receiving back the wreath forms and candle holders. Please remove the old greens and candles and return to the collection box at church.

This week at St. Catherine's

Monday, 12/27

Susan's Day Off
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, 12/28

10:00AM Morning Prayer
10:30AM Staff Meeting
6:00PM Elizabeth Inn
6:00PM MUST Laundry Team
6:30PM Jubilate

Wednesday, 12/29

Thursday, 12/30

6:30PM EFM
7:00PM Men's Bible Study

Friday, 12/31

Jim's Day Off
Church Office Closed

8:00PM A.A.

Saturday, 1/1

12:30PM Jubilate

Sunday, 1/2

7:30AM Holy Eucharist
10:30AM Holy Eucharist/Jubilate
5:00PM Rector's Open House

Monday, 1/3

Susan's Day Off

Tuesday, 1/4

10:00AM Morning Prayer
10:30AM Staff Meeting
4:00PM Catechesis - Catholic

Wednesday, 1/5

9:30AM Bible Study
12:00PM CN&D
6:15PM Youth Choir
7:30PM Adult Choir

Thursday, 1/6

6:30PM EFM
7:00PM Men's Bible Study

Friday, 1/7

Jim's Day Off10:00AM Women's Bible Study
8:00PM A.A.

Saturday, 1/8

9:00AM CGS Level 1 Course
9:00AM Finance
9:00AM The Journey

Sunday, 1/9

7:30AM Holy Eucharist
8:00AM Breakfast
8:45AM Family Holy Eucharist
10:00AM Church School
11:15AM Choral Holy Eucharist
5:00PM Stephen Ministry

Financial Peace University



We are pleased to announce our fourth adult Financial Peace University (FPU) class starting January 16. Previews are being held Sundays at 10:00 a.m., see Peter Morich in the foyer.

FPU is the most important step to changing your financial future. FPU is a 13-week life-changing program with a step-by-step process taught by best-selling author and financial counselor Dave Ramsey, that empowers and teaches you how to make the right money decisions to achieve your financial goals and God's plan for your life. The course includes practical lessons on eliminating debt, building wealth, giving like never before, and much, much more! Financial Peace University is for EVERYONE!...from the financially secure to the financially distressed. Over 1 million have attended FPU – 55 from St. Catherine's. On average, FPU graduates have paid off

over \$5,300 in debt and saved \$2,700 during the 91-day program!

All St. Catherine's singles and couples are invited. The registration fee is only \$150, covering all materials. Sign up at our table in the foyer or contact Peter and Colleen Morich at 770-424-9054, or Phil and Lisa Spessard at 770-565-8244.

These testimonials from our recent FPU St. Catherine's graduates say it all.

"Lowering debt, making new friends, feeling closer to my family—it can't get any better than this!"

"FPU has helped us to completely reorganize our financial situation and make it easier to talk about our budget. We are saving about \$700 per month in interest payments by paying off our credit cards, car, and student loans."

"Being a single mother I am learning how to handle and manage my finances for the first time, saving for retirement and the kid's college."

Ministry Scheduler

By Maureen Donoghue

Have you ever thought about how many people volunteer their time for our worship services on Sunday mornings? Each Sunday there are 4 greeters, 4-6 ushers, 8 acolytes, 2 lectors, a youth reader, 2 intercessors, 2-4 extra chalice bearers, an altar guild group to prepare the altar, the flower guild group, a bread baker, a group of breakfast angels and 2 coffee brigade people, flower deliverers, porch visitors and more. There are many others who are part of our worship, but a schedule for all of the above people needs to be made every Sunday for 3 services.

Those who have been at St. Cat's for years know that the task of scheduling used to be the responsibility of each Ministry Team leader. About 3 years ago we started using Scheduler Pro software to make things "easier," and for those of us who no longer have to make schedules every 3 months, life is easier. However, it has created a very large job for one person. When we first started this process, Tom Hunter was the brave soul who took on the job. The hours it took Tom to set up the system are unknown, but we thank him. For the past

year or so, this job has been passed to Ben Frost.

Every three months, Ben sends an e-mail to all the heads of all the scheduled ministries asking for all the dates that people on our ministries cannot serve for that quarter, what services they prefer, and if there is a holiday, what service they prefer for those. For the Ministry of Invitation alone, that means 26 e-mail responses! I can't imagine what Ben's inbox looks like the week after he sends out that request. When the schedules are posted, you may not always get the service you prefer, or you may be scheduled two weeks in a row, but think about number of schedules for so many people have to be coordinated for each Sunday.

There are many people who "quietly" volunteer their time and talent to St. Catherine's. Things get done around the buildings and grounds each day without us knowing about them. The scheduling of our ministries is just one of those, but one that we could not function without. So thank you to all who volunteer to make our services run smoothly every Sunday and a huge thank you to Ben for his willingness to take on the task of scheduling all of these ministries.

Congrats to our Graduates!

- Stephenie Blythe who graduated from Berry College this month with a bachelor's degree in animal science.
- Cindy Thompson who graduated this month from Georgia State University

Soup for Emmaus

Sat., January 22

Join us for lunch. Chef Sue Snape will prepare

different soups and we will collect canned goods for Emmaus House. Tickets available in January. To help contact Sue 770.971.0236, yummyATleafandloaf.com.



Cookbooks still available

Cookbooks are still available for purchase in the office. If you need to pick up a PREPAID copy, please be sure to INITIAL that you received yours.



MARK'S GOSPEL LIVE!

Experience the entire Gospel of St. Mark in two amazing hours of awesome storytelling by priest and actor, the Rev. Joseph Morris on **Saturday, January 22** at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary of St. Catherine's. Not a reading or talk but a dynamic proclamation of ancient story about God's healing love. This amazing experience is brought to you by the Liturgy and Music Ministry Team as part of our 50th Anniversary celebration. Admission: Free-will offering.

Breakfast at MUST

Join Father Jim to help do breakfast for the guests at the Elizabeth Inn, MUST's homeless shelter on Cobb Parkway. He would like one or two volunteers with him each month. You will arrive at 5:30 am, cook breakfast, serve at 6:30 am and then leave. No clean-up is required. Dates are the fourth Wednesday of each month. Check the Opportunities For Ministry form in your bulletin or contact Father Jim, fatherjimATbellsouth.net or 770-971-2839.

About Autism: a holiday letter

[Excerpts] Submitted by Natalie Whitlow

I understand that we will be visiting each other for the holidays this year! Sometimes these visits can be very hard for me, but here is some information that might help our visit to be more successful.

As you probably know, I am challenged by a hidden disability called autism or what some people refer to as a pervasive developmental disorder (PDD). Autism/PDD is a neurodevelopmental disorder which makes it hard for me to understand the environment around me. I have barriers in my brain which make it difficult for me to adapt to my surroundings. Sometimes I may seem rude and abrupt, but it is only because I have to try so hard to understand people and at the same time, make myself understood. People with autism have different abilities... We are all different and need various degrees of support. Sometimes when I am touched unexpectedly, it might feel painful and make me want to run away... Being with lots of other people is like standing next to a moving freight train and trying to decide how and when to jump aboard. I feel frightened and confused a lot of the time, like you would if you landed on an alien planet and didn't understand how the inhabitants communicated. This is why I need to have things the same as much as possible. Once I learn how things happen, I can get by ok. But if something, anything changes, then I have to relearn the situation all over again! When you try to talk to me, I often can't understand what you say because there is a lot of distraction around. I have to concentrate very hard to hear and understand one thing at a time...

Holidays are exceptionally hard because there are so many different people, places and things going on that are out of my ordinary realm. This may be fun for most people, but for me, it's very hard work and can be extremely stressful. I often have to get away from all the commotion to calm down... Sitting in one place for even 5 minutes is often impossible for me...

People with autism often have little things that they do to help themselves feel more comfortable. The grownups call it "self regulation," or "stimming." I might rock, hum, flick my fingers in my face, flap my arms or any number of different things... I am doing what I have to do for my brain to adapt to your world. Sometimes I cannot stop myself from talking, singing, or partaking in an activity, called "perseverating". I do this only because I have found something to occupy myself that makes me feel comfortable...

Remember that my mom and dad have to watch me much more closely than the average child. This is for my own safety, preservation of your possessions, and to facilitate my integration with you tippies (what we autistics fondly call you neurotypical folk!) It hurts my parents' feelings to be criticized for being over protective or condemned for not watching me close enough. They... are good people and need your support. Holidays are filled with sights, sounds, and smells... If I fall apart or act out in a way that you consider socially inappropriate, please remember that I don't possess the neurological system that is required to follow tippy rules.

I am a unique person—an interesting person. I will find my place at this celebration that is comfortable for us all as long as you'll try to view the world through my eyes!

“Safeguarding God’s Children”

The next “Safeguarding God’s Children” training at St. Catherine’s will be held on Sunday, January 9 after 11:15 service. This training is required for all individuals who work with children at St. Catherine’s on a regular basis, as well as vestry members and church staff. Please sign up to ensure that ample materials for the training will be available, in the Opportunities for Ministry form in your bulletin or contact Nadine Pope, ronazaATmindspring.com.

Letters



Stewardship: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care (Merriam-Webster). It turns out that stewardship comes naturally when you are part of a thriving healthy family. Upon my arrival at St. Catherine’s, I was embraced with the warmest of welcomes. Rachel Bagby made sure that I knew that we’re a casually dressed congregation; Vera Bibbings greeted us with a big smile and a pretty good wisecrack; and I was hooked. *[continued next column...]*

Youth News

By Mike Peterson

December has been a very busy month for our Youth Program, but it has also been a month full of blessings. We ran two back-to-back successful fundraisers, picking up and distributing 30 Christmas Trees (including the 15 foot monster for Hanging of the Greens), 55 wreaths, and 225 feet of garland one weekend, and running our annual Secret Santa Workshop, Breakfast, and Vendor’s Fair the next weekend. The list of people to whom we owe thanks would take up this entire edition of *The Wheel*, but we would be remiss if we did not thank Fred and Jennifer Massey for lending us their time and gigantic truck to pick up the trees, LeeAnn Sherry and Maureen Donoghue for planning the Secret Santa Shop and Vendor Fair, and Tami Mace for coordinating the Breakfast. Thanks also go to Keith Dumke, Susan Jenkins, Gina Baumann, Mary Bess DuBose, Karley Barber, Paddy Phillpotts, Susan Jablonski, Don Mitchell (our Santa Claus), Chandler Sherry, and the St. Catherine’s Youth themselves for keeping these events running in various ways. Most of all, we thank the wonderfully generous people of St. Catherine’s for buying trees, coming to

Secret Santa, and supporting our youth program in so many wonderful ways. The St. Catherine’s Youth wish you all a very blessed Christmas season!

Winterlight

Winterlight is an INCREDIBLE conference for 9-12 graders that takes place at the beautiful Kanuga Center in North Carolina from December 27 to January 1. I simply cannot say enough wonderful things about this program. I first went as a high school freshman in 1996 and have been to every Winterlight (except one when I was overseas) since then. I’ll be there this year, too.

Winterlight is a great chance to develop your relationship with God in amazing ways, to have a lot of fun, and to meet lots of other incredible young people from all over the country (and sometimes the world!). I strongly urge youth to consider going. The official web page with details and registration is: www.kanuga.org/conferences/2010/winterlight.shtml (please note the photo of the incredibly handsome musician on that page: you might know him).

Winterlight does come at a tough time for some families, and I understand that. Full week events at Kanuga are not cheap, if this is the only thing holding you back from going, please let me know.

Letters (continued)

Then, the rector made a point of meeting with me to ensure me that St. Catherine’s was prepared to embrace the needs of my son with autism. At this point, I’m in love. I fell in love with a family of bright, loving, caring and beautiful people who love Jesus.

Now that I’m in love, I do anything that I’m able to do for my loving family in Christ. I feel well cared-for, and I want to care for those who care for me. So, I attend church school, I teach church school, I sponsor a Baptismal candidate, I serve on committees, I clean up coffee and lemonade, and I pledge what I can to ensure that my loving family can remain fiscally healthy and continue to reach out their arms of caring to others in our family and to the greater community. Do you love our family as I do? Then it should come naturally.

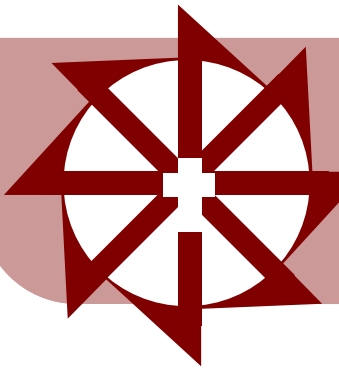
In Christ’s love,
Natalie Marcus Whitlow

Dear [Brian and Jana] Williams

... I want to offer thanksgiving to both of you for the Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols on Dec. 5. I usually attend the 7:30 service or occasionally the 8:45, so I had never yet had the pleasure of hearing the [Adult Choir]... Music has always been a huge part of my life since I was a child. I am now in my early 70s, and in all those years in between, I have never experienced such a spiritually uplifting musical moment—the elegance and simplicity of the program was stunning. I didn’t want it to end! The carols were unusual and beautiful,... I have sung with and listened to many choirs over the years, large and small, and yours excels all.

Thank you for the gift you gave to me and all the others gathered there for your glorious tribute to the coming of the Christ child through the choir, organ, and piano solo. It was a once in a lifetime happening. I look forward to next year. Christmas blessings,

Betsy Broda



ST. CATHERINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
571 Holt Road
Marietta, GA 30068
Phone: 770.971.2839
Email: stcatsATbellsouth.net

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Address service requested



Mark Your Calendars

- 12/21 ... Advent morning Eucharist & study
- 12/23-27 ... Office closed
- 12/24 ... Emmaus Elves; Christmas Eve services
- 12/25 ... Christmas Day service
- 12/ 26 ... Worship at 7:30 & 10:30 only
- 12/28 ... Elizabeth Inn
- 12/29 ... Elizabeth Inn laundry
- 12/31 ... Office closed
- 1/2 ... Worship at 7:30 & 10:30 only; Rector's Open House
- 1/12, 19, 26 ... WNL
- 1/23 ... Parish Annual Meeting

The Wheel

Next Publications:
Jan. 7, Jan. 21, Feb. 4
Deadline for articles:
Wednesday before

Editor: Karen Manno
Email:

KARENATSTCATHERINES.ORG
Phone: 770-973-8668

Hanging of the Greens



Sunday, Dec. 19, 5-8 PM

Please bring a finger dessert to share. Join us to decorate the church for Christmas. Be sure to bring your friends and family (nursery available during the work time). We can use every hand! Plus, we'll have a **Very Special Guest** joining us for the first 90 minutes of the evening. See you there!

Year End/New Year!

• **All donations to the church for 2010** must be postmarked no later than December 31.

• Please turn in any **invoices and requests for reimbursement for 2010 expenses** to the office by December 31.

• **Annual Reports due by January 9**
We really want to have all groups and ministries included this year. Please send them by email rosewolfeATbellsouth.net (contact Rose for a copy of last year's report.)

Parish Annual Meeting



Sunday, January 23

St. Catherine's Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Jan. 23 at 12:30 PM (a light lunch will be served 11:45-12:30 preceding the meeting). **There will be only two worship services this day at 7:30 and 10:30 AM, and Church School at 9-10 AM.**

The Annual Parish Meeting is a time for the congregation to receive reports from the Rector, Senior Warden, Treasurer, and other organizations throughout the parish. It is a time to reflect on the year past and to explore the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead in the new year. We hope you will be a part of this most important time in our common life.

Giving Tree



Items due Sunday, Dec. 19

Please bring your wrapped gift to our Giving Tree with the ornament tag fastened to it. Thank you!



Merry Christmas

*We invite you to our home
for our annual
Rector's Open House
on*

*The Ninth Day of Christmas
Sunday, January 2, 2011
from 5:00 to 8:00 PM*

Jim and Joan Nixon

*2700 Bennington Dr. NE
Marietta, GA 30062
770-977-2525*

*We love children, but have found
that this evening is not a time they enjoy.*