



# The Wheel

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*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!*

## Thanksgiving

We gather together on **Tuesday evening, November 20, at 7:00 PM**, to ask the Lord's blessings and offer our thanks for the abundance we share. Our service will include our choir and the traditional music of Thanksgiving. Immediately following, join us in our Parish Hall to share dessert and beverages. **Please bring your favorite Thanksgiving pie to share.** Also, please take the remainder of your pie home with you because your staff cannot—and should not—eat it all. A blessed and happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

- No Wednesday Night Live on Nov. 21
- The church office will be closed Nov. 22-23.



## Stewardship Ingathering

We had a strong start to our effort and we thank everyone who has returned their pledge. As of November 11, 2007 our campaign stands at 122 pledges for a total amount of \$459,642. Last year our final results for Stewardship 2007 were 217 pledges for a total of \$605,367.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to return your pledge, please prayerfully consider your offering of time, talent, and treasure, and bring your card to services this Sunday or send it to the church office. Remember, the Vestry sets the 2008 budget based **only on pledges received.** Extra cards are available at church or call the office. **If you are unable to pledge this year, please let us know** by returning a card with \$0. Beginning December 2 your Vestry will follow up with those who have not returned a card to ensure everyone has had an opportunity.

## "Barn Raising"

Sat., Dec. 1, 8:30 AM - ??

We will be raising the walls for our new Youth House on December 1, starting at 8:30 AM and working until we've capped the walls in preparation for trusses. We will be building and raising walls and securing cap plates. Sign up on the sheet in the lobby — all builders (must be 16 years or older) should bring gloves, hammer, and a desire to work hard. Larry and Meg Boyd are coordinating meals (a good way to help if you can't build), contact them at 770.977.9362. On **Saturday, Dec. 8**, we need plenty of help again to install roof trusses, decking, and possibly shingles.

Many hands will make easy, light work! On behalf of the Youth House Build Committee we look forward to seeing you there. Please contact Frederick Massey, 404.731.4466, for questions.



## Christmas Trees & Wreaths

### Orders due by Nov. 19 at noon

We will take your order for fresh Frazer fir Christmas trees and wreaths at church after services on Nov. 18, or contact Karen Manno, Karen@StCatherines.org or 770-973-8668, for a price list or to place an order. Payment is due with your order. Pick up your tree in the lower church parking lot on Dec. 1, 11:00-2:00 or Dec. 2, 1-1:30 PM. *The Adult Choir thanks the Youth program for allowing us to use the benefits from this year's sale toward new robes—we need to replace our 25-year-old wardrobe (yes, 25!) in order to be able to add more choir members.*



## 2008 Budget requests due Dec. 9



All Ministry Teams and committees should return their 2008 budget requests to the church office by Dec. 9.

## Flu Shots available

Flu shots will be given at St. Catherine's by our Congregational Nurses each Sunday while our supply lasts. Cost is \$25, Medicare is accepted. If you cannot come to church please contact the office or Dani Dickson for our nurses to administer the shot in your home.

## Holy Baptism

**Next Date: Jan. 6**

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

## Commitment to Mission and Ministry

*Whereas many prayerful hours in 2007 have been spent by the clergy and laity discussing issues related to the nature and composition of the Anglican Communion and the dynamics of sexual orientation, and*

*Whereas the House of Bishops has delivered two communiqués (March 2007 and September 2007) stating the "affirmation both of our identity as a Church and our affection and commitment to the Anglican Communion";*

*Be it resolved that we, the people and clergy of the Diocese of Atlanta, thank the House of Bishops for their pastoral ministry, affirm our desire to remain members of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, and pledge to participate in the listening process across the Anglican Communion; and be it further*

*Resolved, that as we acknowledge the health, missional direction, and faithfulness of our Diocese and of our Bishop, we, resolve to set our hope on Christ and the Great Commandments and Great Commission—thereby sharing the Good News with all people, raising up people for ministry and discipleship at all levels, and building strong and faithful congregations in the name of Christ.*

The above resolution was proposed by the clergy of the Marietta Convocation at our

recent Diocesan Council. It was amended in committee and passed on the floor of Council without debate. We proposed it, and I'd hope that Council passed it, with a determined interest to focus our efforts both as a Diocese and at the local congregation on the mission and ministry given us in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is not a motion against anyone or, for that matter, for everyone but a resolution that affirms the work that Christ gives us and we covenant with him each time in Baptism. As a people we promise to:

- be the church; working praying and giving for the spread of the kingdom;
- resist evil and repent and return to God when we are not successful;
- proclaim both in our words and our deeds the Good News of God in Christ;
- seek and serve Christ as we find him in all persons; and
- strive for justice and peace and respect the dignity of every human being.

I believe that the vibrancy of St. Catherine's is due to our commitment to the mission and ministry God has uniquely given us. I'm pleased to have been a part of saying the same thing in the larger community of faith as together, we affirmed our commitment to mission and ministry.

## Prayers of the People

### For the Sick

Justin, Sharon Parisi, Susan, Courtney, Diane, Steve Boyce, Page Loyd, George Wyatt, Dianne Blackshear-Wood, Jamie Harding, Betty Boyce and family, Lillian Vu, Barbara Dilbeck, Karen Loomis, Bruce Perry, Jodi Gammon, Ann Frensley, Margaret Ausec, Gaye Alexander, Don, Jim Smith, Sallie Bowes, Denise, Cindy, Lisa Spessard, David Kerley, Dan Morris, Kalique Woodbury, Sharon Busch, Ruby Schaefer, Shirley Walters, Sylvia Franks, Louise Reid, Katrina Dickerson, Cynthia

Snider, Mary Alice Barrington, Frank Boggs, Rosemary, Joan, Sally, Frank Boggs, Genie, Andrew, Annalee & Andy Rhea, Kim Brown, Althea Dillard, Gary Metzger, Anne Rand, Lauren Baldwin, Patti Henderson, Karen Mathews, Doris Samples, the family of Don Vargo, Rawley Crosslin, Robby Bibbings, Luke Williams, Steve Z., Gail Tyre, Eric Lewis, Sue Snider

### Before Surgery

Susan Martin, 12/7

### Deceased

Don Vargo, added by Ellis Kilgore; Carol Raiman, mother of Joan & Jim Nixon's friend

### Parish Cycle of Prayer

**(11/18/07)** Jamie, Bill & Andrew Harding, Shona & Dustin Morris; Bettye Harris; Judith Harrison; Cary, Karen, Kristen & Kyle Henderson; Jay & Joyce Hendricks, Jerilyn & Carson Gardner;  
**(11/25/07)** Bruce, Susan, Scott & Tom Heuke; Kristina Higgins; Carolyn Hilley; Debra & Ben Hilley; Eric, Amy & Christian Hollis

## Children are stewards, too

Kids — There is still time for you to make a written pledge for Stewardship 2008. The Children's Pledge programs are on the tables and in the tract in the narthex. Just take one and talk with your parents about filling one out.

## ESL teachers wanted

We are exploring the possibility of training teachers for ESL classes at St. Catherine's to be offered to the public. If you are interested or know someone who is, please sign up on the Opportunities For Ministry in your bulletin or contact Hale Sanders, 770-565-2719.

## Grief Group continues

The Holiday Grief Group offers a safe place to share stories of loved ones who are no longer with us as we venture into Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. The group continues Sundays: Nov. 18, Dec. 2, 9, Jan. 6, 13. Please join us each date immediately following 11:15 service in the Parlor. Lunch is provided.

## New Pictorial Directory coming

St. Catherine's family is growing and it is time for a NEW Pictorial Directory. Pictures will be taken in January at the church. Each family photographed will receive a complimentary directory and a free 8x10. We need 100% participation and it will not be complete without YOU!

**Sign up online today** on our website at [www.stcatherines.org](http://www.stcatherines.org). Sign ups will also be available beginning December 9 in the church lobby. For more information, email Jennifer Gale at [drjennygale@tmsn.com](mailto:drjennygale@tmsn.com)

Picture dates and times:

- January 15 and 16 — 3:00 - 9:30 pm
- January 24 and 25 — 3:00 - 9:30 pm
- January 26 — 10 am - 5 pm



### Attention Military Families:

Our new directory will honor our parishioners and their family members who are currently active in the military. Please submit names and a photo to Jenny Gale by January 15.

→ Advertising space is available for businesses of our parish family. Prices start at \$40 and all funds will be donated to the new Youth House. Pick up additional information regarding prices and ad dimensions in the lobby. All ads are due to Jenny Gale NO LATER THAN January 15.

## Finance Report — Plain & Simple



I know all of you have heard about the confusing nature of the economy. There is good news and there is bad news and no one seems to have a firm grasp on what

lies in the future. All of us have already felt some negative effects directly at the gas pump, in our mortgages, in our investments and in our jobs. We don't know how fast things will bounce back or how serious they will get. We do know that there is growing anxiety.

St. Catherine's is not immune to either the uncertainty or the anxiety. In past years and in our budget we had anticipated that our pledges in October would help us reduce the deficit we built up in the summer. This didn't happen. In fact, pledge income

in October fell well below budget which caused an increase in our deficit. As a result your Finance Team took a look at opportunities to cut costs for the rest of the year. Because of fixed costs and the short time until the end of the year we have very limited options.

Having said all that, our deficit is not out of hand and can be eliminated if we all are faithful to our pledges in November and December as we have been in the past. It is a time of faith and action. As we enter this time of thanksgiving for our well being and for the Great Gift of Christ coming into the world we can be sure that our love for Christ, His Church and for each other will carry us through. But the action in this world is ours.

For those of you who like numbers:

	Annual Budget	October Budget	October Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Pledge	\$603,567	\$49,226	\$37,679	\$484,573	\$463,408
Total Income	\$682,422	\$55,703	\$44,554	\$548,674	\$519,647
Total Expenses	\$682,422	\$53,523	\$52,224	\$566,075	\$535,373

## Calendar

Monday, 11/19  
7:00PM Kneelers Group  
7:30PM Boy Scout Troop 713

Tuesday, 11/20  
10:00AM Morning Prayer  
10:30AM Staff Meeting  
10:30AM Flower arranging  
7:00PM Thanksgiving  
Eucharist/Dessert

Wednesday, 11/21

Thursday, 11/22 **Office Closed**  
8:00AM Gobble Jog

Friday, 11/23 **Office Closed**  
8:00PM A.A.

Saturday, 11/24

Sunday, 11/25  
7:30AM Holy Eucharist  
8:00AM Breakfast  
8:45AM Family Holy Eucharist  
10:00AM Advent Wreath making  
11:15AM Choral Holy Eucharist  
6:30PM Stephen Ministry

## Available now

The Fellowship Committee is selling beautiful St. Catherine's Christmas cards, ornaments and mugs on Sundays before and after services. A packet of 25 Christmas cards and envelopes is \$15.00. The ornaments and mugs are \$5.00 each. Be sure to get yours before they run out!

## Wednesday Night Live

• **Adult program** — Join us each Wednesday during Advent for food and fellowship (5:45 - 6:30 pm) followed by an engaging study focused on a movie (Parish Hall) or a NOOMA video (Parlor). The movies for *Lights Camera....Faith!* during Advent:

- Nov. 28—*The Beach: Imperfect World*
- Dec. 5—*The Apostle: Sincere Repentance*
- Dec. 12—*Jesus' Son: Unintentional Healer*
- Dec. 19—*Where the Heart Is: Awaiting the Child*

• **Children's program** — Do you know what a Jesse Tree is? Come learn! We will be making lots of crafts in the next weeks. Keep on eye out for a Jesse Tree around St. Catherine's. Join us every Wednesday (Nov 28-Dec 19) 6:30-7:30 pm in the boardroom. This program is open to all ages. We ask that preschool children have a parent stay with them to aid with the crafts. For questions, contact Kristin at [kgblackstock@hotmail.com](mailto:kgblackstock@hotmail.com)/770-971-2649.

## Holiday Outreach opportunities

• The Giving Tree will be back on November 24th, and we're gathering gifts for the 700+ children who come to Emmaus House for festivities on Christmas Eve morning. We ask that you shop for boys and girls 9 to 16 years. Suggested gifts include: portable CD players with batteries, back packs, sleeping bags, books, videos, socks, gloves, sports equipment, watches, CDs, sunglasses, playing cards, cologne, and manicure sets. A more complete list of suggestions and instructions can be found at the Outreach table in the church lobby. We ask that you attach the tree ornament securely to your gift before delivering it to the church **by December 9.**

• We are collecting scarves, slippers, hankies, socks, soap, shampoo, cologne, shaving cream and razors, gloves, billfolds, decorative items, costume jewelry, watches for the Emmaus House Secret



## Advent Eucharist/Study

### Tuesdays beginning Nov. 27

Madeleine L'Engle, an author whose childhood fables, religious meditations and fanciful science fiction transcended both genre and generation, died this year at the age of 88. A lay Episcopalian, she wrote more than 60 books ranging from children's stories to theological reflection. L'Engle was best known for her children's classic, "A Wrinkle in Time," the Newbery Award for best children's book of 1963. She had been the writer-in-residence and librarian at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. During Advent we will use four of her reflections/meditations on Advent and the Incarnation: *A Sky Full of Children; Impossible Things; Time and Space Turned Upside Down; The Other Side of Reason.*

Join us each Tuesday morning to celebrate the Eucharist at 7:00 am followed by a brief study. The material will be available on our Advent Resource Table.

Santa Shop to be held on Sunday, December 23. After the 10:30 AM Sunday service, children visit the Secret Santa Shop to buy gifts for their parents and grandparents. All items are priced at 10 cents. Please deliver your donations to the Giving Tree by December 9.

#### • More Needs:

- Gift cards from Kroger and Publix. These can be placed in envelopes marked "Outreach" and put in the basket on the Outreach table.

- Large adult winter outerwear such as jackets, hats, scarves and gloves. These items may be placed in the box provided.

- For the past few years, several of us have gone to Emmaus House on Christmas Eve morning to be "elves," helping to distribute presents to 700+ smiling faces, and escort the guests to the various events. It's a wonderful activity, guaranteed to get you in the holiday spirit, and we would love for you to join us! If you're interested, please contact Nadine Pope, [ronaza AT mindspring.com](mailto:ronaza@mindspring.com) or 770-973-9057.

Thank you for your support of St. Catherine's Outreach ministries!

## Calendar

Monday, 11/26

7:00PM Kneeler Group  
7:00PM Hispanic Ministry  
7:30PM Boy Scout Troop 713

Tuesday, 11/27

7:00AM Eucharist/Advent Study  
10:00AM Nativity Outing - Staff  
7:30PM Mothers & More

Wednesday, 11/28

9:30AM Bible Study  
5:45PM WNL - Dinner  
6:00PM Elizabeth Inn  
6:15PM Youth Choir  
6:30PM WNL - Programs  
7:30PM Adult Choir

Thursday, 11/29

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

Friday, 11/30

30th-2nd Advent Retreat  
10:00AM Folders  
10:00AM Women's Bible Study  
8:00PM A.A.

Saturday, 12/1

10:00AM Peer Supervision

Sunday, 12/2

7:30AM Holy Eucharist  
8:00AM Breakfast  
8:45AM Holy Eucharist  
10:00AM Walk Through Advent  
11:15AM Holy Eucharist  
12:30PM Holiday Grief  
6:30PM Stephen Ministers

## Reflections

A special annual tradition at St. Catherine's is our booklet of reflections on Advent and Christmas written by our own parishioners. Copies will be available at church, and be sure to check on our website throughout the season for your Reflection of the Day!

## 2007 Habitat House dedicated

On Sunday, November 11, at 2 pm a great turnout of parishioners from St. Catherine's Episcopal and Father Jim helped dedicate and bless the brand new Habitat home of the Hollins family. Father Jim gave the opening prayer, Roger Motter presented the Hollins family with the key to their new home, and Connie Bergeron presented the Homeowner's Gift. St. Catherine's had more than 100 volunteers helping to build and serve food at the home from August to November. Witnessing the dedication and supporting the Hollins family were Shelly Ransdell and Carol Eskew, Mark Childs, and thanks to Cary Kilgore and Connie Bergeron for the lunch following the dedication. Tom Snead, Habitat Volunteer Coordinator for St. Catherine's, was missed as he was out of town.

Our 2007 home was built by the BEEL Team, Zion Baptist Church, St. Catherine's Episcopal Church, St. James Episcopal Church, First United Lutheran Church (Baptist, Episcopal, Lutheran = BEEL) plus volunteers from Kennesaw State University, Lassiter High School, and of course, sweat equity by our homeowner. For more information, please visit [www.cobbbhabitat.org](http://www.cobbbhabitat.org). Habitat for Humanity is committed to its goal of building simple, decent, affordable housing by working in partnership with God's people in need. We invite your support of next year's Habitat for Humanity house; please e-mail Tom Snead at [tom.snead@earthlink.net](mailto:tom.snead@earthlink.net).

**See photos from the Dedication next page!**

### Advent Retreat

Is the quiet voice of God lost in the noise and hurry of the approaching season? Come away with us for an Advent Retreat, Nov. 30 to Dec. 2, at the Center for New Beginnings in the mountains of north Georgia, where we'll unwind and slow down before the holiday season begins. Our retreat leader, Sharon Parisi, will help us consider whether there might be some ways to increase our awareness of the presence of God throughout all seasons of our lives. Cost is \$230 per person, double occupancy, includes two nights lodging and all meals. See the Opportunity for Ministry in your bulletin or contact the office, Father Jim, or Sharon Parisi [parisi@bellsouth.net](mailto:parisi@bellsouth.net).



### A Walk through Advent

On **Sunday, December 2**, during the Church School hour our Adult and Youth Choirs will resurrect a tradition in our congregation known as a Walk through Advent. This is a time for our music leaders to teach us about Advent and the music they will be using throughout the season to highlight and emphasize the themes of each Sunday. They do some singing and add some commentary about why a particular anthem or hymn is appropriate for the day. Please join us in the Sanctuary at 10:00 am. We invite our adult Sunday School classes to use this as an opportunity to gather together. And, of course, we invite any who usually don't attend Church School to make a special effort to join us.

### Seasonal Donations

We invite the parish each year to donate money towards decorating our church for Christmas. This year we add to our request the cost of special music for Christmas Eve. We remind you to insert your donation in the brown envelopes in your pews (beginning Nov. 25) and let us know in or on the envelope your name and who you want your gift to be remembered in thanking or memory of. Please return your envelope by Dec. 9 to be listed in our Christmas bulletins.

### Folding Party



The annual Christmas folding party and lunch will be **Friday, December 14, 10 AM** in the Parish Hall. The folders assemble all the bulletins used at St. Catherine's services during this festive season. There is always lots of laughter and fun, and plenty of room for anyone interested in joining in the work. If you are interested please sign up for lunch in your bulletin or contact Rose Wolfe, [rosewolfe@bellsouth.net](mailto:rosewolfe@bellsouth.net) or 770-971-2839.

### Christmas Pageant



The annual Christmas Pageant will be held Sunday, December 16, during 8:45 service. All children are invited to participate. Watch for announcements of rehearsals coming soon.



## Vestry Notes

From the Vestry meeting on November 13:

- St. Catherine's UPWARD planning process continues with the Mutual Ministry Review Team meeting on November 15.
- Stewardship In-gathering also continues as we prepare to begin the 2008 Budget process - We budget only based on Pledges received from the congregation.
- Youth House update: the footings have been dug and will be complete by this weekend. Dec. 1 is now the expected "barn raising" for the walls, etc... watch the Parish Announcements email.
- Vestry Nominations are moving along. Anyone interested in being on Vestry should contact one of the members of the nominating committee: Gina Baumann, Ron Brannock, Carol Eskew or Ben Frost.



Above, left: St. Catherine's celebrates with the new Habitat homeowner, Sharon on Nov. 11 at the Dedication. (Left to right, Carol Eskew, Cary Kilgore, Connie Bergeron, Sharon, Mark Childs, Roger Motter, Shelley Ransdell, and Father Jim Nixon)



Above, right: Roger Motter presenting the Hollins Family with the key to their new home

## Serving at Elizabeth Inn

- *From Claire Waldron and her family:* Davis says, "It's fun and also you know you're helping people and that makes you feel really good." Mitchell says, "It's treating people like you really care about them, they're regular people and if you act kindly to them it all comes back to you." Claire says, "It's enjoyable to work together as a team and the recipients are VERY appreciative - I really believe in this well-run ministry. It teaches my sons SO much to be involved and to give back!"
- *From Mary Lou and Megan Shannon-house:* Megan says: Helping prepare dinner at Elizabeth Inn is a lot of fun. It makes me feel good to help others in need. I think everyone should try it at least once. From Mary Lou says: My daughter, Megan, and I help at Elizabeth Inn because we enjoy serving others as Jesus tells us to do. Serving dinner allows us to live out Jesus word. Doing this together creates a special bond, not only with my daughter, but also with other members of our Church. Try it, you will like it!
- *From Susan Burkholder:* Scott, Stephanie, and I have been volunteering at MUST Ministries for several years. It has been a great opportunity for us as a family to give back to those who are less fortunate than we. Each time we leave, the kids and I talk about how blessed we are to have what we have. We enjoy talking to the people at the inn, especially when there are children. Our hope is that we bring a little joy in their hearts.
- *From Jamie Harding:* Elizabeth Inn: I walk in the door, see the cafeteria-like atmosphere, start getting the meal ready, and then wait. What I wait for is the presence of

the Holy Spirit and Christ as the residents walk in the door, the old, the sick, the young, and the cocky. Each person has a story, has a chuckle buried inside that they want to share, and a grace that I can feel when I hand out cookies and fruit. I go because I can and because, when I leave, I take a little piece of Grace with me.

- *From Valerie Smith Buxton:* Serving at Elizabeth Inn is an opportunity to truly follow Jesus' example. It also reminds me to put problems in their proper perspective and be more thankful for the blessings in my own life. Quite frankly, I think I get much more out of serving than I give by doing it.
- *Marci Blair, an "adopted" parishioner and avid volunteer:* My experience volunteering at Elizabeth Inn has been a gift to me. I am humbled every time I serve those people and their families and see in their eyes how thankful they are.
- *A parishioner who wishes to remain anonymous said:* I have been richly blessed in my life (wonderful church family, wonderful family, healthy kid/grandkids, etc.) One tiny little way that I can give back to God is to feed the hungry. One little bit of that is to 'do' Elizabeth Inn.

We are so appreciative of all who help serve dinner on the 28th of each month at Elizabeth Inn, and also for those who overnight. We wanted to give you an insight into what our volunteers feel about their participation in this important ministry. The Outreach Committee has a decades-long history of support for MUST, both financially and through hands-on opportunities to serve those in need. Won't you join us on the 28th of any month that is convenient for you and your family? Sign up at church or email [connieb@mindspring.com](mailto:connieb@mindspring.com) or [tracyklpc@peoplepc.com](mailto:tracyklpc@peoplepc.com).



## Report from Diocesan Council

What a renewing experience to attend the 101st Diocesan Council at St. Philips last weekend! We all had the opportunity to talk, listen, share and grow. One of the most important things I heard was that as we speak or write, it isn't just the definition of our words we need to clarify but also to know what the people listening really hear. We all have different reactions to what we hear. The focus should be on the listener. The Bishop's address was motivational and sent us out with Holy marching orders. He outlined five major areas for the Diocese to concentrate on during the up coming year. First, is the ministry to the youth and young adults. It is our responsibility to support them beyond the parish. We need to give them tools and experience to continue to grow spiritually and support one another. There is also a great need to nurture and educate middle school children who are at a very vulnerable stage. The development of Nativity Schools in the Diocese has already begun. The second area to enlarge is Leadership Development. When we choose our leaders for the clergy, lay ministries, and vestries we need to be sure they can lead effectively. The Diocese should provide training, resources, tools and helpful hands. The third area of effort will be Diocesan growth. The more shoulders side by side, the more of God's work we can do. We are aware of the constant stream of misinformation that is out in the world and

how it is pulling people away from the

church. We need to reverse that by being Christ's visible sign everywhere we can. The Diocese will be looking into the creating of another parish, choosing some needed areas to present at the next Council. Becoming good stewards of our environment is the fourth area of effort. We have an obligation to take good care of our earth. We need to provide parishes with information, ideas, and tools to train us all to conserve God's gifts. Being good stewards of these gifts is a powerful witness of our faith. Finally, is the area of global missions and global poverty. We heard reports from ministries that are present in areas like Tanzania, Ecuador, and Brazil. Their efforts have life changing consequences well beyond that area. Each parish is encouraged to continue choosing area they reach out to that are the most meaningful to them. The Diocesan staff will help and support with people and other resources.

Bishop Alexander then went on to discuss the state of the Episcopal Church. He referenced statements from the Bishops meeting in September..His strongest desire is to keep the discussion going, to continue to face into the issues with prayer and love, putting our trust in the Holy Spirit to grant us understanding and unity. He said "We must stay at the table no matter how difficult our dinner companions seem." The Bishop's presentation made me feel proud of him, our Episcopal Church, and proud to be representing St. Catherine's.

*For God's glory, Elaine Krupp*

## Visit Epiphany's Nativities

For the twelfth holiday season, The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, 2089 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Decatur, presents an exhibit of over 200 nativity scenes from around the world December 1 through 9. Many of the nativities are accompanied by scriptural quotes and hymn texts. Admission: \$5.00 for adults; \$4.00 for Seniors & Students, Children under 12 free. For information call 404.373.8338 or [www.epiphany.org](http://www.epiphany.org).

## End of life planning guide

Breathing machines... feeding tubes... life support... Do your loved ones know what life-extending care you would want at the end of life? Having a family conversation is the most powerful thing you can do to make your preferences known – contact Joan Nixon 770/977-2525, for a free CRITICAL Conditions<sup>SM</sup> Planning Guide. Use it to discuss and document your wishes for final health care, because it's time you did!

## Letters

*Dear St. Catherine's,*

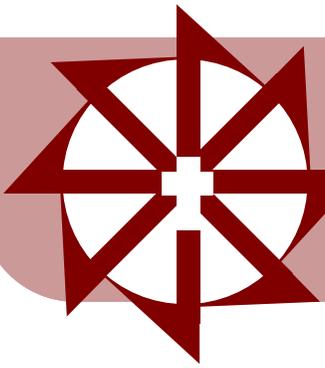
*God makes his presence felt in many ways. I have felt His presence through the many acts of love and kindness from you since the death of my mother. The cards, the calls, the meals, the memorials, the visits, and all the kind words have been a great comfort to my family and me. Being a part of this wonderful parish is a blessing in my life.*

*Love, Emily Gale*

*Dear St. Catherine's Family,*

*Unfortunately, it took misfortune to realize all the wonderful people that are a part of my life. The dinners provided gave us the physical strength to keep going and the Publix certificate has helped Susan fill the cupboards. During Jason's visitation, I was reminded how blessed I am to have the support, love, prayers, friendships, and understanding of the St. Catherine's family. Your hugs uplifted my spirits. These blessings along with God carrying me for a while will help me get my feet back on the ground. Thank you for supporting my family and please keep the prayers coming.*

*Love, Monica Rader*



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MARIETTA, GA  
30060



## Mark Your Calendars

- 11/20.. Thanksgiving Service
- 11/22-23... Office closed
- 11/24.. Advent wreaths
- 11/28, 12/ 5, 12, 19 .... WNL
- 11/28.. Elizabeth Inn
- 11/30-12/2.. Advent retreat
- 12/1,8 .... Youth House build
- 12/1-2... Christmas tree pickup
- 12/2.... Walk through Advent
- 12/5-9..... New Orleans trip
- 12/8.... Secret Santa shop
- 12/9.... St. Nicholas celebration;  
budget requests due

### *The Wheel*

Next Publications:  
Nov. 30, Dec. 14, Jan. 4

Deadline for articles:  
Wednesday before

Editor: Karen Manno  
Email:

[KAREN@STCATHERINES.ORG](mailto:KAREN@STCATHERINES.ORG)  
Phone: 770-973-8668



## Vestry nominations still being accepted

Are you interested in serving as a member of the Vestry? Do you know someone who you think would be a good Vestry member? You can nominate yourself or someone else. A list of eligible members of St. Catherine's is available in the church foyer. Serving on the Vestry is a ministry that helps one see how the church can make a difference in people's lives. Contact Ben Frost, Senior Warden, or any Vestry member if you have questions or nominations.

Elections will be held at all services on Dec. 16. To obtain an absentee ballot please contact the church office. Absentee ballots must be returned to the office by 5 PM, Friday, Dec. 14.

## Newcomer Party

**Sunday, November 18, 6 PM**

All newcomers to St. Catherine's are invited to our upcoming adult Newcomer's Party on Sunday, November 18, at 6pm at the home of Hale & Diane Sanders, 770.565.2719. Even if you attended a recent Newcomer Coffee at church, please come to a wonderful evening.

## Advent Wreaths

**Sunday, Nov. 25, 10 AM**

Adults, youth & children — Please join us in the Parish Hall to make an Advent Wreath for your family. The program for this intergenerational event includes an environmentally-friendly message in conjunction with the traditional liturgy guide. For questions or to help, please contact Kristin Blackstock at [kgblackstock@hotmail.com](mailto:kgblackstock@hotmail.com) or 770-971-2649.

