

The Wheel



Celebrate This Christmas at St. Catherine's

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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!

Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 19, 8:45 Service

The annual children's pageant and reception will be held at the 8:45 service. It promises to be a wonderful experience for everyone — don't miss it!

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 19, 5 - 8 PM

This event is for everyone—family, guests, neighbors and friends! Be sure to **bring a family ornament (or two or three) with your name on it** for the Great Tree in the Atrium. **Finger desserts** will be appreciated as well.

Marshmallow Roast! While adults are decorating, children and others who are young at heart are invited out to the back to roast hotdogs, make s'mores, and drink hot chocolate. (Please have a parent accompany children under three.)

At 6:00 we break for a soup and sandwich supper, then gather in the sanctuary for Christmas carols and special music. We'll finish up with dessert. Please join us for a joyful time as we prepare our new church for the celebration of Christmas.

Christmas Eve

4:30 PM Children's Celebration

Music begins at 4:30 PM with Jana Williams on harp and Laura Manno on flute. The worship service begins 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 Christ-

mas gift to us. Immediately following is a special Reception in the Parish Hall.

10:30 PM Christ Mass

Service begins with special music from our Adult Choir, Organist Jana Williams and, on flute, Laura Manno. The Christ Mass procession starts at 11:00 PM. The solemn and beautiful Christmas celebration brings the glory of our Anglican tradition to the greatest story ever told as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Following this service is a festive Reception with champagne and an opportunity to wish each other a blessed and joyous Christmastide.

Christmas Day

10:30 AM Service

We hold our celebration of the incarnation with an intimate service on Christmas morning. We invite everyone to bring their favorite gift to show as we remember the most precious gift of all, Jesus Christ. This service is a great opportunity to share the joy of the season without the crowds of the night before so if you've never tried it, this might be a good year to add this worship to your Christmas celebrations.

5:30 PM Evening Prayer

The Jubilate Choir will offer Evening Prayer at 5:30 PM. They have prepared special Christmas music and invite you to join them at the end of the day to celebrate the birth of Christ in song and prayer.

**From each and every one of our staff
we wish you and yours a most blessed
and joyous Christmas and Christmastide**

Office Closed



The church office will be closed for Christmas on December 23, 24, and 27. The office will also be closed for New Year's Eve on December 31.

Nursery Workers Needed

We are in need of two adults to look after the nursery during the **Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 PM**. If you can assist, please call Susan Roberts at 770-578-6634.

Nursery Schedule

There will be **no nursery on Christmas Day or Sunday, Dec. 26**. Regular nursery hours will resume on Sunday, January 2.

Next Baptism:

JANUARY 9

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

Advent Attachment

"Have you gotten your Christmas shopping done?" That question is asked of me more and more frequently lately. Isn't it interesting that we prepare for the joy of Christmas by accumulating all sorts of consumer goods for our family and friends? I don't often question my urgings as I make my list and scurry from store to store in December. Certainly we want our gift-giving to mirror the grace of God in giving us Jesus the Christ.

But when we read the lessons for daily and Sunday worship, we hear a different sort of preparation for the Messiah — preparation that often means paring away, sloughing off, getting simple in our relationship with God. As I rush from store to store, holiday gathering to holiday gathering, I long to do the very thing Scripture calls me to do. I long to get rid of the clutter and wait for our Savior who is coming into our world as a small, vulnerable baby.

Peace,

Sherry+

Prayers of the People

For the Sick

Sharon Parisi, Mary Koenig, James, Dawn Houston, Mit FitzSimons, Julie Heath, Jean Pitts, Peter Rowland, Lindy Harrison, Terry Adams, Ann Drake, Toby Hopper, Peggy Thomas, Ginger Fant, Olivia McLeod, Marcel Desrosiers, Lorraine Nichols, Mollie Patton, Ruth Ann Shaw, Cindy, Howard Nielsen, Kevin M., Cary Phillips, Juliet Boutilier, Meghan Degan, Cheryl Jones, Madeleine Caudell, Linda Jones, Jim Greene, Debbie Hughes, Candy Lovitt, Baby Martin, George Wyatt, Jean Shrader, Ron Renn, Ernie Norsworthy

Before Surgery

Beverly Fambrough, 12/28/04

Deceased

Stephen Nicholson, Russell Crick, friend of Claire Waldron, Bill Newton, Beth Thomas's grandfather.

Special Prayers

Defend all the men and women of our armed forces at home or abroad especially in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Kuwait that they will have a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be.

For All Saints' Church in Florence, South Carolina. For the birth of Christopher Lawrence Rader, son of Jason and Susan Rader and Grandson of Monica Rader; for the birth of Annalisa Aubrey Jones, daughter of Andy and Lori Jones and granddaughter of Al & Sue Jones.

Parish Cycle of Prayer

(12/26/04)

Don, Ana & Oak Martin; John & Susan Martin; Fred, Jennifer, Alan & Sara-Alison Massey; Karen, John & Amy Mathews

(1/2/05)

Jim & Nancy Mattox; Marilyn May; Mike & Patty McCarty; Chuck, Lee, Charles, Joseph & John McCrary, Mary Scott Hahn; Walt, Gail, Robin, April & Scott McGill

(1/9/05)

Robert & Maureen McGowin; Roy Miller; Kenneth, Linda, & Dana Minzenberg; Andy, Carroll & Jennifer Mitchell, Katie Lowry; David, Mary, Catherine & Laura Moore

Advent Study and Eucharist

Our early morning Eucharist and Study series concludes **Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:00-8:00 AM**. The readings from *Watch For the Light* can be found on the resource table in the foyer. Won't you join us?

New Year's Schedule

- Dec 31... Office closed
- Jan. 1..... No 5:30 PM worship
- Jan. 2..... Regular worship schedule; no Church School

Clergy Open House at the Nixon's, 5-8 PM
- Jan. 5..... WWW resumes
- Jan. 9..... Church school resumes; 12:30 Outreach Event (Blanket Making)
- Jan 23 ... 10:30 Worship; 12:00 Parish Annual Meeting; no Church School



John Barrington



Carol Eskew



Ben Frost



Susan Gregor

Vestry Elections 2005

We congratulate

**Carol Eskew
Ben Frost
Kevin Hogan
Chris Williams**

upon their election to the Vestry.

And, we thank

**John Barrington
Susan Gregor
Marilyn Hunter
Al Jones**

for their willingness to put their names forward for this important ministry. The most common comment we heard this year was about the strength of the slate of candidates, which has a lot to say about the relative strength of this congregation at this point in our life.

We wish the very best to Carol, Ben, Kevin, and Chris as they join a hard-working leadership team which faces many challenges and opportunities in the coming years. We look forward to continued opportunities for John, Susan, Marilyn and Al to offer their gifts of leadership to the mission and ministry of St. Catherine's and hope that each will consider running for Vestry in the future.



Kevin Hogan



Marilyn Hunter



Al Jones



Chris Williams

YEAR END

➤ **All donations to the church** for 2004 must be postmarked no later than Dec. 31.

➤ Please turn in any **invoices and requests for reimbursement** for 2004 expenses by December 31.

➤ **Budgets Due Now**
Our 2005 budgeting process begins soon! All committees, please submit your budget requests to Rose as soon as possible.

➤ **Annual Reports**
Annual Reports are due in the office **by Sunday, January 16**, in preparation for the annual meeting on January 23. We hope to have 100% participation from all groups and ministries. If at all possible, please email your reports to Rosemary Wolfe at rosewolfe@bellsouth.net.

Stewardship Pledges and Prayers



We continue to receive pledges for 2005. As of this week **we have 153 pledges for \$425,206**. In 2004 **we had 183 pledges for \$490,919**. As you can see we have a ways to go to finish this year's stewardship campaign. We have not yet heard from 37 households who pledged \$65,372 in 2004.

The Vestry reviewed the financial situation on Tuesday evening, but was unable to draw any conclusions about the 2005 budget. The best scenario is that we will have approximately the same income in 2005 as we had in 2004. The worst scenario is that we could have a substantial gap between expenses and income. This gap does not include some scheduled expense increases (janitorial service, debt set-aside, utilities, etc.) in 2005. In any case without the 37 pledges outstanding and several new pledges, there will be budget cuts for 2005.

The magnitude of the cuts we face mean that we can only find such money in one or all of three areas: reduced staff

salaries and benefits, reduced outreach, and/or reduced building debt set-aside. Reducing anyone of these three areas to any degree will be very difficult and painful. As a Vestry we agreed to submit this situation to prayer and God's guidance. We invite the congregation to do the same.

What can you do? First, pray with us that God will guide us through this dilemma. If you pledged in 2004 and have not yet pledged for 2005, please do so as soon as possible. If you have not pledged to St. Catherine's in the past or are new to our community, please consider making a pledge for 2005. Every new pledge will make a substantial difference next year. Pray for discernment for your Vestry. They are committed to a balanced budget based on your commitments to the mission and ministry of St. Catherine's. We've had plenty of evidence of God's grace this past year and such evidence will sustain us through this time of difficult decisions.

Letters

Many thanks to all of the folks who made last Sunday's St. Nicholas Celebration a big success! Adults, youth, and children all enjoyed themselves a great lot thanks to all of your work. While it's easy to think of ministry and plan it, it takes many people to make an event really work. Happily, when the call goes out for volunteers at St. Catherine's, one is seldom disappointed. A big thanks to all of you!

*Many, many blessings,
Ana Martin*

Dear St. Catherine's Parish,

This note is sent to express my profound gratitude for your generosity and hospitality on St. Nicholas Day. The hats and gloves and warm winter coats will make our clients so happy at this time of the year. We at MUST are so proud to be an extension of your local parish ministry.

Merry Christmas!

John Moeller

Habitat Continues

Build Dates:

Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29



Our Habitat House building project will take a Christmas

break, then resume on Jan. 8. Please sign up on the sheets available at church every weekend. For information please contact Tom Snead (build) or Connie Bergeron (food).

Giving Tree Socks Due!



If you took an Emmaus House sock from the Giving Tree, please return it to church with the tag attached no later than this **Sunday, Dec. 19**. We're looking for a few more missing socks. Please don't disappoint one of our Emmaus House children.

W W W Returns!

Wonderful Wacky Wednesdays will take a holiday for Christmas and return in their new and improved form **on January 5, 2005**. We have added a salad bar to offering and Marsha has established a set of menus to be used on a rotating basis. Our menu for Wednesday, January 5, will be lemon chicken. Of course, the PB&J table will return for our children and the young at heart. Please remember to tell us the number in your family who will join us for dinner each week in your bulletin or by calling the church office.

The adult program will use the video tape series, *Wrestling with Angels*. This series is an intimate look at the tough questions of life through intimate conversation with people who tell about their personal spiritual experiences. Each episode is hosted by a well-known author who has struggled with and written about these particular issues.

In particular we will examine these five questions over the 5 weeks of Epiphany: Doubt - *How can I question and still believe?* Love - *Why is loving so hard?* Prayer - *Why don't my prayers get answered?* Guidance - *How do I know what to do?* Forgiving - *How do I forgive and get on with my life?*

We invite you to join us for dinner and the program, for dinner alone, or for the program alone. The adult program will start each Wednesday evening at 7 PM in the new conference room in the administration wing.



St. Catherine's Shirts Now Available

Ever thought to yourself: "what I could really use is a nice shirt with a St. Catherine's logo"? The thoughtful J2A youth have anticipated your deepest wardrobe desires and have arranged to deck you out in sartorial splendor in the new year! With **golf shirts, long-sleeve t-shirts and denim button-downs, and hoodies**, each embroidered in burgundy, you're sure to find something you'd enjoy wearing.

We're raising money for the pilgrimage, but since we really want to make these symbols of parish pride available to everyone we've kept the cost very low. Contact Brian West at the St. Catherine's office or look for the J2A fundraiser table between services.

Blankets with a Blessing



Sunday, January 9
12:30 PM

Intergenerational Outreach Project — No Sewing Required! Everyone is invited to join in the fun! After the 11:15 service, we will have lunch and make fleece blankets to be donated to The Center for Children & Young Adults, Inc. This is a non-profit, temporary, emergency shelter for children taken into DFACS custody here in Marietta. The children often arrive with only the clothing they have on and every child is given a blanket to keep as their own.

You do not need to sew a stitch! The blankets will be "hand-tied." Each family is asked to bring two pieces of fleece, colors may coordinate or contrast. Each piece should be 1½ yards long. (You may bring smaller pieces for baby blankets or larger pieces for teen size blankets.) Please bring a sharp pair of scissors, too.

We will have a light lunch of soup and bread. Please bring a bread or dessert to share.

Fellowship, food and a sparkle in your crown! What a great way to start Epiphany! If you would like additional information, please call Barbara Barrington, 770-516-9224.

Parish Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 23

We will have **one worship service at 10:30**. The Parish Annual Meeting will follow the service at **12:00 PM**. Please plan to attend this important annual event in the life of our parish.

Flower/Candle Schedule

The schedule to sign up for 2005 Altar Flowers and Sanctuary Candles is now available in the church lobby. For 2005 flowers are \$40 and candles are \$10.

eWheel Every Month

Does everyone in your family receive the eWheel? Is everyone subscribed? Email is becoming an important means for our parish communications. Just note the email addresses of everyone who would like get their own copy on your bulletin or send them to Wheel editor Karen Manno at karen@dblegl.atl.ga.us .

News from St. Elizabeth's

These articles are taken from the December issue of Apahgteeket Whsee-ev "Prayer Feathers," the newsletter of our companion church in Whiterocks, Utah.

College bound!

Congratulations are in order for Noreen Johnson who has been accepted at Colorado Mountain College, Alpine Campus, in Steamboat Springs. She will leave on January 13th for orientation and classes begin on January 17th.

Congratulations are also in order for Julian Shavanaux who has been accepted at Haskell University in Lawrenceville, Kansas. Julian reports for classes on January 8th.

Ivana goes to Barbizon

This fall Ivana Nephi was selected from hundreds of girls to participate in the Barbizon School for Modeling. Every other Saturday, they travel to Salt Lake for her classes. The classes though geared to training for modeling provide much more. They train young people in modeling, photo movement, makeup, nail care and TV commercial work. They also stress speech, etiquette, health and nutrition.

The Denney's Visit to St. Catherine's (excerpt)

Charles was asked to perform during the opening of the new Church, to be held on

November 21, 2004. St. Catherine's Church sent tickets for Charles, Clinton and I. We were all so excited that they would call on Charles to go perform at the opening and gladly accepted. We took our daughter, Ashley, along with us.

We left for ATL on November 18 and arrived late that night. On Saturday we attended a rehearsal and prepared for the service on Sunday. Sunday, we arrived at the Church in plenty of time. When we arrived the church was already getting full. We were so glad to see some of our old friends, Auggie and Carol Cavallie and Nick Ader. The service began as the Bishop entered the front door of the church, knocking on the door. There were two members being baptized. All of the items in the church were blessed and dedicated.

Charles' performance was great. One little boy came up to Charley and told him, "My mom said that when I get big, I get to come to your church and, will you teach me how to dance?"

The presentation of the beaded cross came at the reception following the service. Reverend Nixon told Paige he would give us warning before we went on but he called us up almost first and we weren't ready. We were standing in line for food. Charles and I went to the podium while Clinton and Dale Schlenker affixed the cross on the pole. When Paige took the cross out of the wrapping and placed it on the pole the crowd was in awe. I heard someone say, "How beautiful." I read the letter sent from the vestry as Clinton held the cross. Clinton then passed the cross to Reverend Nixon. He was so grateful. Reverend Nixon then read the presentation of the Smithsonian name engraving dedication and presented the certificate to us. A couple of other presentations came after that. We were so glad to witness the dedication. ...

We thank our partners at St. Catherine's for the opportunity in sharing this special event with them.

Lelilah Ossie Denny

Noochu (the people) of St. Elizabeth's welcome you to Worship, share Hospitality and grow in God's love to better serve the Church and Community.

Carol Fey appointed to State Commission

Governor Sonny Perdue has appointed parishioner Carol Fey as Community-based Organization Representative to the state's Commission on Service and Volunteerism. Carol is the program development manager for Communities in Schools of Marietta/Cobb County, Inc. She is a VISTA volunteer and program coordinator for the Georgia Literacy Connection Program, and a consultant for The Hyacinth Group. She worked as volunteer resources coordinator for Cobb Family Resources, Inc., and she received the GAVA June Sammons State Award in 2003. Congratulations, Carol!

Wow!

Youth

Check the Youth page of the church website often for news!

Send materials, photos, ideas or suggestions for the youth newsletter via email to stcatsyouth@bellsouth.net.



Valentine Dinner Dance & Silent Auction

Saturday, Feb. 5

Put it on your new 2005 calendar now!

Wednesday Nite Live

We're taking a break for the holidays, so don't come on Dec. 22! We start again in 2005 with WWW on January 5. See you there!

Make your Ski Trip reservations!

Feb. 18-21 — Valle Crucis in west NC

If you haven't signed up for Ski Trip, be sure to do it soon. We want to make sure you make it. (If you're having money questions, be sure to speak to Brian.) Look for the ski trip brochure at church!

Youth Schedule

Dec 22	NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE! (we'll miss you!)
Dec 29-30	Winter Lock-In (stay tuned!)
Jan 5	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Jan 7-9	Senior DYC
Jan 12	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Jan 14	Ski Trip deposit due
Jan 19	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Feb 2	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Feb 5	Valentine's Day Dinner Dance and Silent Auction
Feb 8	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Feb 9	WWW at 6 pm, WNL at 7 pm
Feb 16	Lenten program starts
Feb 18-21	SKI TRIP!
Feb 25-27	New Beginnings



LOCK IN!

Dec. 29 6 PM to Dec. 30 8 AM

No charge for participation, but please RSVP if possible.

By Brian West

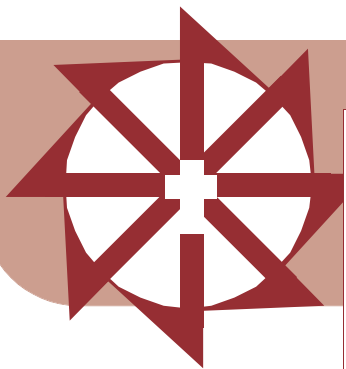
My favorite memories from my youth group days as a student are of lock-ins. An all night party attended by everyone I knew—dozens of hyperactive teenagers boosted up on Surge and Mountain Dew—was exactly the kind of thing I looked forward to.

Nevermind that lock-ins back in the 80s were pretty unstructured events. We had a blast, even though all we did was run around and scream like heathens. Every year was the same caffeine and sugar-induced delirium; every year when our parents picked us up the next day we'd go home and crash like circus cymbals. It was the best part of winter break.

Unfortunately, lock-ins are becoming a thing of the past. As churches become increasingly sensitive to safety and liability issues, fewer and fewer are willing to trust youth and adult leaders. Many have given up on lock-ins as too difficult to supervise, fraught with too much risk, or just too darn much trouble. Not St. Catherine's, though.

In a way, it's like going back in time, only with the wisdom from the last two decades of youth ministry intact. I'm confident we can have a ball and still keep our youth, our adult leaders, and our church (mostly) intact. Expect battleball, a pillowfight tournament, a movie (with discussion, of course), and the great-granddaddy of all lock-in games...Underground Church. Father Jim has even volunteered to lead us in a midnight Eucharist.

How could you possibly want to miss this? And just for giggles, we'll toss in all the caffeine and sugar-induced hysterics you remember from yesteryear, no extra charge. C'mon, you don't get a free ride on a time machine just every day, you know.



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Mark Your Calendars

- 12/19Pageant, Hanging of the Greens
- 12/23, 24, 27, 31
Office Closed
- 12/244:30 & 10:30
worship
- 12/2510:30 Christmas
Day service, 5:30
Evening Prayer
- 12/26Worship at 10:30
- 12/28Elizabeth Inn
- 1/1No Sat. worship
- 1/2Clergy Open House
- 1/5WWW

The Wheel

Publication:
1st & 3rd Fridays
Deadline for Articles:
Wednesday before
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Decorating Contributions Still Needed

We are collecting donations for Christmas flowers and decorations. We want to make this year's decorations extra special — your contribution will be very appreciated! Please use the manila envelopes found in the pews or on the greeter's table. Please print on the outside of the envelope how you would like us to list your donation in thanksgiving or memorial for a loved one. The deadline to be listed in the Christmas bulletins has been extended one more week, to **Sunday, Dec. 19.**



Elizabeth Inn

Next Date: Tuesday, Dec. 28

Saint Catherine's staffs the Inn on **the 28th of each month.** Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve dinner and/or spend the night. Join in this important service to our neighbors. For questions, please call Tracy Buckalew, 770-956-9609, or Connie Bergeron, 770-951-1411.



Important Stewardship Update Inside!

See Page 3!

Communion Wine Donations

We are getting low on our supply of communion wine. If you would like to help by donating some wine, you may leave it in the church office. We use Taylor Tawny Port, either size bottle. Please leave a note if you are donating in memory of, or in thanksgiving for someone. Thank you.

