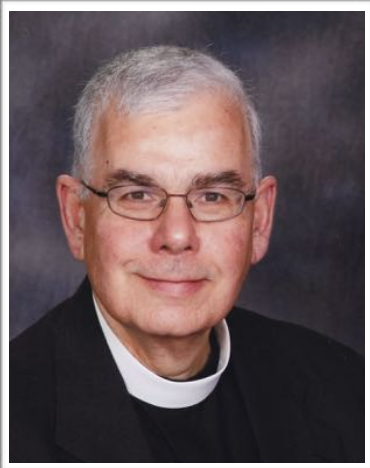




January
2019

THE NATIVITY SCENE



A Daring Adventure

On January 27, Nativity will hold its Annual Meeting. As in previous years, there will only be one worship service that day, at 9:00 a.m., followed by the meeting at 10:30 a.m. There will, of course, be coffee and munchies, nursery, children and teen programs, and we should conclude by noon at the latest. Please put this meeting on your calendar and plan to attend. After all, 2019 promises to be one of the most important years in the brief history of this parish. Your voice and presence are needed and welcomed.

Years ago David Viscott wrote a book titled *Risking*. In his introduction he quoted Helen Keller: "Security is mostly superstition. It does not occur in nature nor do children of men and women experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is either a daring adventure or nothing."

Viscott then asserts, "If you have no anxiety, the risk you face is probably not worthy of you. Only risks you have outgrown don't frighten you. If you create a life that is always comfortable, always without risk, you have created a fool's paradise."

Renewal is risky business. Renewal demands change and a new way of being. Renewal is stepping out in faith, never being content with the status quo, viewing every challenge as an opportunity, and moving into a future with faith rather than certainty.

What concerns me today is that too many Christians, and yes, even Episcopalians, seem willing to settle for the status quo. We seem content simply to get by rather than to run the race of faith. God, Christ, and the Church don't seem to be center stage in our lives anymore. Somehow we have lost that passion to set the world on fire with the love of Christ that marked the New Testament Church.

Quite simply, there is too much fear, defeatism and negativity going around these days which is simply not justified.

Continued on page 3

Nativity's Annual Meeting

Save the Date: January 27: Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Church of the Nativity will take place on Sunday, January 27 at 10:30 a.m. There will be only one worship service that day, at 9:00 a.m. Coffee, munchies, nursery care, children and youth ministry programs will be provided. We expect that the meeting will adjourn no later than noon. Given the call of a new Rector in 2019, this is an important meeting for all parishioners. So, please plan on attending and sharing your views and voice as we discuss the present state of our parish and its future under a new Rector.

Nativity Schedule

22405 N. Miller Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
Telephone:
480-307-9216
www.NativityScottsdale.org

Sunday Schedule!

8:30	Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00	Festive Eucharist Rite II
11:00	Hospitality
11:00	Christian Formation
11:15	Bible Study for Adults

Wednesday Schedule

6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer Rite II with Holy Communion
6:30 p.m.	Bible Study Wednesday

Nativity Staff

The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi, Interim Rector
GaryNicolosi@TheNativity.net

The Rev. Dr. Wayne V. Whitney, Associate Rector
WayneWhitney@TheNativity.net

Juliana Witt, Music Director
julianawitt@TheNativity.net

Mandy Hodges, Christian Ed. Director
mandyhodges@theNativity.net

The Rev. Martha Durham, Deacon
marthadurham@theNativity.net

Fr. John Millar
Priest Associate

Mina Rafferty
Parish Administrator
MinaRafferty@TheNativity.net

Ernesto Escamilla, Sexton

Nativity's Vestry

Senior Warden:	Suzanne Cohen 480-586-6625 Secohenjd@yahoo.com
Junior Warden:	Warren Sambach 480-451-6995 nywarren@cox.net
Treasurer	Art Graf 602-695-3400 mxgk25a@aol.com
Sarah Banks	480-204-1732 sdwnaz@yahoo.com
Jon Bost	602-618-6781 JonRBost@yahoo.com
Margaret Cohea	703-717-1877 mvcohea246@gmail.com
Bill Deihl	480-223-7796 bjdeihl@aol.com
Jennifer Goins	480-655-5355 azjen13@hotmail.com
Norma Hyatt	623-516-9346 nvhyatt@gmail.com
Amy Miltenberger	805-598-4714 akmilt@yahoo.com
Paul Rank	513-300-3729 paulrank1@mac.com

Nowhere is the old saying, “We are what we say we are” more true than in our Christian discipleship. If we say we are beat, then we probably are. If we say we are too tired to share the Gospel, then we probably are. If we say we are hopeless, then we probably are. If we say we can’t do a job or we can’t reach a goal, then we probably can’t. One of the more memorable quotes from Henry Ford is when he remarked, “Whether you think you can or think you can’t, you’re right.”

Jesus gave us a promise: “With God all things are possible.” Ordinary people can do the impossible because they are empowered by the Spirit of God. You and I have been given all we need to carry out the ministry of this church. God never gives us a ministry without giving us the ability to fulfill that ministry. In other words, God isn’t finished with us yet – not by a longshot.

As 2019 begins, why not commit yourself to a life of excellence in the things of God? Spend time with the Lord each day in prayer. Read your Bible. Reach out to the needy. Volunteer for some ministry. Be generous with the gifts God has given you. Remember, you can’t out-give God. The more you give, the more you will receive. Believe it.

Nativity is now at a crossroads. At some point in 2019 the parish will have a new Rector. That person will lead a highly talented and diverse membership, move the members forward in church growth and outreach, expand our pastoral care ministry, support the children, teen and young adult ministries, and insure that we have the funds not only to survive but to thrive in these challenging times. There will be much for the new Rector to do, which is why Nativity needs a high energy, high commitment person with a deep but mature faith who will move this church to the next level of excellence. Moreover, the new Rector will need your support – by your prayers, your willingness to assist in ministry, and your financial contributions.

Between now and the Annual Meeting, I want you to think about your vision for Nativity – what you would like to see this church become and do in the next ten years. What kind of hopeful, positive future do you see for our church? What does this church need to do, such that if we don’t do it, five years from now we will regret it? And how can we best witness the good news of God’s love in Jesus in a highly competitive culture in which many people are not only “spiritual but not religious” but even “spiritual but secular”?

The great inventor Alexander Graham Bell once said, “When one door closes, another door opens. But too often we spend our time gazing at the closed door and fail to see those doors that have opened for us.”

This is a time of immense challenge but also great opportunity for our church. The greatest hunger of people today is the need to be loved – loved by God, loved in community, loved by one another, to give love, to receive love, and to know always and forever that one is loved. The church can meet this need, but we need to stop fretting about doors that are closed and start focusing on the doors that are open. There are enormously successful churches in the metro Phoenix area, and there is no reason why Nativity can’t be one of them.

Life is either a daring adventure or it is nothing. With this in mind, hold fast to the promise in Scripture: “There is nothing in all creation that will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Have a happy, prosperous and positive New Year!

Your Friend and Interim Rector,
The Rev. Dr. Gary Nicolosi



What is up with all the weird stuff in the Bible, especially the wacky stuff in the Old Testament? This question is a very legitimate one, especially for a people such as the church who dwell in what the Apostle Paul calls the time of “faith.” Paul fashions the precepts and rules of the Torah as a sort of guardian for us—sort of like guard rails to keep us in the right path while we’re going through formative years. We best learn WHO we are when we have structures designed to keep us alive in our infancy and childhood. Eventually we reach a point where we don’t need the kind of supervision that excessive strictures provide. When we remain alive long enough to

become responsible adults we get to experience the deep relationship of a loving God—thankful that we could reach a point of governing ourselves. Such is the function of the Old Testament—what Jesus, Paul and the early church knew as “The Scriptures.”

So, what’s up with all the weird stuff in the Bible is like those things you learned from your parents or mentors growing up that served to keep you alive but don’t serve you anymore. Maybe some of those things never applied to you. Maybe you’ve outgrown what they were intended to impact and aren’t even present to that need anymore. All of this is fine.

Thankfully we have Jesus’ summary of the law: Love God, love your neighbor. Boom. It’s that simple. We are never at liberty to use anything in the Bible as a justification for being anything less than a redeemed child of God. We are never justified in being mean or petty but are always being called into our best selves—our true selves.

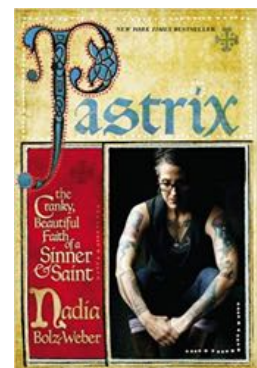
On Bible Study Wednesday nights we’ve been studying the book of Exodus as an element in appreciating our mentors in the faith. Studying the Old Testament Scriptures gives us context for how we are the way we are today. Looking back on these texts helps us see from whence we came. It provides us a macro-view on how to approach life today as we appreciate where we’ve been. Always, it should result in us being more open, more loving and more fully alive. Finally, it gives us the kind of context for the words of our Lord that we read in the Gospels that allows us to truly know him as the earliest Christians, nay, even the original disciples did. Knowing God is the point of all Bible Study. The journey always takes us forward while never ignoring what got us here safely.

See you in church, and in Bible Study.

Dr. W+

Centering Prayer

Nativity’s Centering Prayer Group meets Wednesdays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. in the Youth Room. Following a period of silent prayer we will reflect on weekly readings from Nadia Bolz-Weber’s book *Pastrix*. Please contact Vicky Dinneen at dinneenv@earthlink.net for more information.



Welcome Father John Millar

I am pleased to welcome Father John Millar to our parish and to appoint him as Priest Associate, an unpaid position in which he will assist in a pastoral capacity. Some of us know Father Millar from his time at St. Anthony in the Desert in Fountain Hills. Before his retirement, Father Millar served at St. Augustine's Church in Tempe. We are delighted that he is now with us. Parishioners will notice Father Millar sitting in the congregation and wearing his clerical collar. He is most eager to chat with parishioners at coffee hour about pastoral, spiritual or any other matters. You will find him to be a good listener, a caring human being and a faithful priest. We at Nativity are blessed to have him with us. So, please welcome him when you see him on Sunday.

Bible Study Wednesday

The 2nd book of the Bible, Exodus, tells the story of how God's faithfulness is present especially in our worst situations in life. Join Dr. Wayne on Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 7:30 in the Longley-Cook area for an in-depth look at God's word.

Each class ends with the prayers of Compline. Drop-ins are welcome. Direct inquiries to Dr. Wayne.



Sunday Morning Power Bible Study

Dr. Wayne hosts this look at one of the lections from the Sunday service each Sunday from 11:20-Noon in the Music Classroom.

Evening Prayer

Take a mid-week prayer break and sing some of your favorite prayers at Evening Prayer on Wednesday nights from 6:00 to 6:30 in the Prayer Chapel. This lay-led service includes a reflection on a historical Christian witness and an opportunity for healing prayers.

THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. LEGACY

A COMMUNITY SING,
MEDIA AND NARRATIVE
PRESENTATION



**MONDAY,
JAN. 21ST
7PM**

A birthday celebration of the chief spokesman for the Civil Rights Movement, this event will feature traditional gospel music repertoire, script and media, led by the Nativity Music Ministry and local community members. This experience will be an evening filled with strong emotion as you witness the historical presentation of MLK's life.

FREE-WILL OFFERING

22405 N Miller Rd, Scottsdale, AZ

Arts AT
NATIVITY

The Salonnières Trio



A La Carte is a unique experience, where the audience chooses the program from a "menu" of genres and styles. In a revival of the European salon tradition, this group of soprano Jamie Kay Alston, violinist Jennifer Rhodes, and pianist Dr. Karali Hunter embraces classical repertoire, folk, musical theater, and sacred traditions.

Saturday, February 2 • 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$20 adults/\$5 students & children 12 and up available at
ArtsAtNativity.org or at the door



Episcopal Church of the Nativity

22405 N. Miller Road • Scottsdale, AZ 85255 • (480) 307-9216

PRESENTED BY 3RD AVE. ARTS

Anti-Aging Therapies Discussion Group**Nativity Episcopal Church, 22405 N Miller Rd., Scottsdale, AZ.****Program for January 10, 2019**

The December 6th Anti-Aging Discussion Group was a fascinating look at the importance of strong social connections as we age. Various studies indicate that an active social life can increase health and longevity. One example that was presented was about a small village on the Island of Sardinia in Italy. In this village the number of people over 100 years of age is almost ten times higher per capita than the number of centenarians per capita in North America. Genetics accounts for only 25% of the reason people live so long in this village in Sardinia and 75% is related to other factors within their control. The study compares the importance of 12 different lifestyle variables, like diet, exercise etc. Want to know what the most important were? You can see it here in the 16 minute video of the secret of living longer and healthier in this special Italian village. Just enter the below internet address once you open your internet connection.

https://www.ted.com/talks/susan_pinker_the_secret_to_living_longer_may_be_your_social_life

Thursday 9:30 AM, January 10, 2018 - A New Year's Resolution to Make Your DNA Look Younger.

Over the past few decades exercise has become a widely accepted method for looking and feeling younger and improving various bio-markers. Extensive research has been conducted and shown that generally all types of exercise are beneficial to our overall health. However, in the last few years it has been demonstrated that certain types of exercise routines can actually make a participants DNA express a younger profile - regardless of the age of the participant when they start exercising. What was additionally surprising was that many of these exercise programs typically take only 20 to 30 minutes per workout with a frequency of 1 to 3 times per week. We will highlight two different exercise programs. One that focuses on Cardio Vascular health and the other that focuses on increasing strength and overall muscle mass.

As always the goal of all our meetings is to provide, free of charge, information with supporting references that can be applied by those who attend or shared with others who they think might benefit.



Please RSVP if attending to Jeri at antiaging320@gmail.com



Course:

Start CPR 1st - CPR & AED
Saturday, March 16, 2019 @ 2pm
At Nativity



The CPR AED course covers:
 Adult CPR & AED - Adult Choking
 Child CPR & AED - Infant CPR & AED
 Child and Infant Choking

Course length is approximately 2 hours

5-10 Students \$40 per student

11-19 Students \$30 per student

20+ Students \$20 per student

Payment is due at the time of service. \$5 transaction fee if paying with a credit card.

Many times our instructors have classes to follow; we kindly ask that all participants please be on time.

Please contact Mina at minarafferty@thenativity.net

of students UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME.

Nativity Directory

Our current directory is printed in super large font and taped them to the window outside the church office. Please take a moment to review the information we have for you and your family. If there is something missing or incorrect, mark it with the red markers provided and complete the form with the correct information.

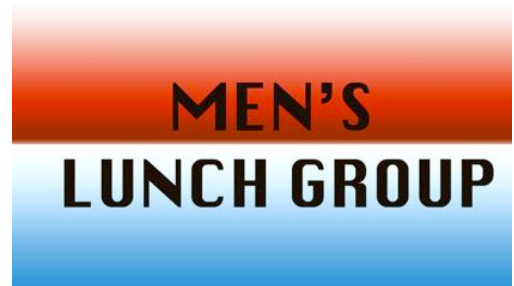
The forms are on the desk in the church office. Please turn in your updates by 1/20. We will be printing new Directories to be handed out during our Annual Meeting on the 27th of January.

Thank You for Your Help!



Men's Luncheon

Please join us on Wednesday, January 23 at noon for a friendly gathering and lunch at the All American Grill in D.C. Ranch. RSVP to Bill Worthington at 480-575-7830 or bandb718@msn.com.



Women's Luncheon



Women's Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 16th at the All American Modern Sports Grill in DC Ranch at noon. All women of the parish are invited. DC Ranch shops are located at 20751 N Pima Road

Men's Pub Fellowship

The February gathering of the MPF is Thursday, February 7th at 5:00 p.m. at the All American Modern Sports Grill at 20751 N Pima. Bring a friend or meet and make new ones! <http://www.allamericanmodernsportsgrill.com/>

For questions - contact Art Graf
mxgk25a@aol.com





Our Nativity community happily gathered together on November 30, 2018, to party and raise funds to support and celebrate our Outreach Ministries. Thanks to the incredibly hard-working, committed volunteers AND many ADVENTure donors, we raised a record-breaking \$35,000 (net), \$8,000 over the goal! **Be sure to read the Outreach article in this newsletter to find out which ministries the Committee prayerfully discerned for the allocation of these funds.**

A few highlights of the evening included:

The auctioneering skills of newcomer Ron Kupinski energized the live auction, who with Cotty kept the bidding going and the donations flowing.

There was an amazing array of themed baskets (perennially popular bidding items) beautifully assembled by a group of talented Nativity ladies.

Donations from businesses continued this year thanks to concerted efforts by members to reach out and talk about Nativity and this FUNdraiser with favorite vendors and restaurants, along with some new additions (horse rides were popular).

The Outreach Committee handled the sale of handcrafted soaps and honey from our sister parish St. Mary of the Moonlight in Navajoland. Everything sold out! Also, our sister parish on the West side, Santa Maria, took orders for their delicious tamales, selling 47 dozen.

Jameson House Purveyors of Fine Holy Spirits (namely Jeff) took orders for his famous limoncello and holiday eggnog. His bar team beat their personal goal for bar sales.

We tried a new technology for payments, *The Square*, which made paying with a credit card easier (ok, after a few technological challenges, but it sure helped the bottom line!!)

Newcomers jumped right in donating unique and beautifully crafted auction items, helping with the event setup, baking, and supporting this FUNdraiser with *Give from the Heart* contributions. Their energy and enthusiasm were a welcome addition to the efforts of the ADVENTure team.

The evening ended with a spirited sing-along of the *Twelve Days of Christmas* with the choir, along with luscious desserts provided by our own Nativity bakers.

In this time of transition for Nativity, our 5th annual ADVENTure proved once again to be a necessary reminder and celebration of who we are and of our mission “to transform lives with the love of God in Jesus Christ.” We are ever mindful that the true beneficiaries of this FUNdraiser are the men, women, and children who are and will be served by our various Outreach Ministries. We are all blessed to be part of such a warm, generous, and committed community.

ADVENTure Committee Members Juliana Witt and Christa Van Zant were omitted from last month's list of volunteers. Many thanks to them and to everyone who worked toward the success of this event.



CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY
ADVENTure
 FUNRAISER FOR OUTREACH



**Thanks to all the many ADVENTure Auction Donors who helped make this
FUNdraiser such a success!**

Joni Fitts School of Horsemanship
All American Modern Sports Grill
Arizona Silk Flower Company
Bruce LaChot DDS PC
Butter's Café
Dre's Salon & Spa
Gordon Biersch Restaurant
Capital Grille
Grayhawk Golf Club
Hugh W. Gruhn DDS
J J's Delicatessen
Jalapeno Inferno
La Torretta Ristorante

Liberty Station
MiniCo Insurance Agency
Pinnacle Grille
PNPK Wine Bar
Posh Salon & Spa
Rene Ramirez Training Center
Rhythm & Wine
Sprouts Grocery
Super Paulene's Nails T. Nguyen
Thai Basil
The Breakfast Joynt
The Grotto Café
Zona Med Spa

Bill Army
Cindy Aronson
Barb Ausick
Byron and Sharon Bailey, Jr
William Bailey
Dee Banks
Brenda and Tom Basso
John & Kim Beekman
Nancy & Tom Bleasdale
Kay Blinn
David & Mary Lynn Bolger
Jon and Mary Anne Bost
June Bowman
Erma Brackin
David & Paula Brandt
Susan Burnham
Nancy Byrnes
Kathi & Rich Capizanni
Jon Coates
Margaret Cohea
Suzanne Cohen
Cindy Cohen
Tanya Collins
Ron & Cindy Creamer
Tony & Rubie Czerwinski
Kathy DeMuro
Mary Dexter

Cheryl Dunkelberg
Tom and Martha Durham
Diana Fitzgerald
Joan Francis
Linda Frey
Jen Goins
Betsy Goode
Joyce Graves
Aaron Graves
Jane Guerrero
Greg Hardman
Ron & Joan Harris
Terry Holcombe
Edward James
Jeff & Gayle Jameson
Jazz Friends of Colleen
Whichello
Dr. Ellen Johnson
Ann Julin
Dawn Kast
Claudia Kline
Alice Kogan
Ron Kupinski
Janet Lindholm
Alastair & Mary Longley-Cook
Lana Longoni
Karen Matson

Mark Miller
Regina Morgan
Debbie Myrick
Nativity Choir
Nativity Ladies Wine Night
Nativity Outreach Committee
Gary and Heather Nicolosi
Ron Nollen
Susie Paulson
Cotty & Andrea Peabody
Ann Phillips
Kathleen & Chuck Potts
Paul & Mary Ann Rank
Susan Reynolds
Janyce Schneider
Bob Schoenbachler
Pat Shaler
Anne & Jennifer Shilling
Spencer-Treinen Family
Christa Van Zant
Sergio Venzor
Fred Walski
Jim & Kathy Wasson
Colleen & Bob Whichello
Ray & Joy Wiseman
Juliana Witt

It's Not Too Late to Pledge

January is still not too late to make your pledge to Nativity if you have not already done so. Every amount, whether small or large, is of immense value to our church and is gratefully received.

Many of us may know that one of our largest and most generous benefactors died suddenly this previous summer. His support for our church insured that our campus is now debt-free and his annual pledge made an enormous difference in the ministries and staffing that we can afford to offer our members. With his death, we now have to make up most of his pledge if we are to maintain our quality ministries and staffing. So, we are asking everyone who is a member of this church to pledge in 2019, give as generously as you can, and support our church as we call a new Rector.

Thank you for your generous support, your presence in our parish, and your prayers as Nativity continues to be a compassionate and caring community in Christ.

Fr. Gary Nicolosi
Interim Rector

ADVENTure Provides Additional Funds for Outreach Ministries.

Thanks to the overwhelming success of ADVENTure 2018, the Outreach Committee was able to allocate additional funding for a number of ministries.

They are:

\$500 for Packages from Home

\$1000 for the Phoenix Rescue Mission

\$2500 for St. Mary's Food Bank

\$1000 for Navajoland

\$1000 for El Hogar Ministries

\$2000 for American Friends of the Diocese of Jerusalem



Habitat for Humanity®

Habitat for Humanity: Nativity will have its first Habitat outing of the year on Saturday, January 26th. We will be completing a new home for a worthy family in Peoria. We will probably be assigned last minute details and some painting. It is a half day of work, and snack and lunch are provided. If you would like to participate in this outreach ministry, please sign up on the sheet outside the office. We need your name, phone number and whether you will need a ride. Any questions, please call John Adamwaite (602-373-9225) or Cotty Peabody (617-966-1461).



Casa Food Packs

Please join us in packing weekend food packs for food insecure K-2nd grade students from Casa Academy.

We also are seeking help for delivery of the packs. Both packing and delivery happen at 10AM, with packing taking place in the Fellowship Hall and delivery is to the school in North Central Phoenix .

Upcoming dates: Feb 2: pack/Feb 4: deliver.
March 2: pack/ March 4: deliver

We look forward to you joining us - all ages are welcome! If you have any questions please contact Laura Dobbins lauradobbins01@gmail.com

The New 2019 Altar Flower Dedication Calendar

The 2019 calendar is hung on the wall between the church office door and the kitchen window.

Please take a moment to sign up for altar flower dedications.

Flowers may be dedicated in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for blessings received. Once the final Sunday service is completed, the flowers can be taken home with you or given to someone as a gift. Please return the vases by the following Sunday. Suggested donation \$50.00 Take a moment to complete this form, place your check/money within the envelope and leave on the desk in the office.

The dedication **MUST** be received by the church office no later than noon on the Wednesday prior to your date.

Should you have any questions, please contact Joyce Graves 602-885-8828
(leave a message if I don't answer) Jbjlgraves@cox.net



Box Tops

This school year Nativity will, once again, participate in “Box Tops for Education”. Coupons, worth 10 cents each will be given to Casa Academy. Their school coordinator will combine our coupons with those collected by the students’ families. Twice a year, Casa Academy will receive a check to use for the purchase of things they need.

Look for coupons on products from Big G, Pillsbury, Old El Paso, Green Giant, Ziploc, Hefty, Kleenex and Scott. A collection jar is located in the kitchen next to the stove. Thank you to anyone who is interested in participating!



Knit Preemie Hats

We continue to knit hats for Preemie Babies on the first and third Thursday mornings of each month starting at 10:00 am. We meet next on January 17th. Any questions? call Deacon Martha or MaryAnn Rank. marthadurham@thenativity.net



Bag-A-Meal: Sandwiches for the Homeless

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

February 5th - 10:00 am.

First Tuesday of the month at Nativity, is our Bag A Meal Outreach for the Homeless through the Phoenix Rescue Mission.

We bag 2 PB&J sandwiches, cookies, granola bar and a bottle of water. For our February 5th work day, we are starting at 10 am.

Contact Kathy Graf. kgraf518@aol.com for more info.



Take Them a Meal - SIGN UP TO HELP

It happens to all of us at some point, and receiving a meal when you are sick, following surgery or going through a major crisis can be a blessing. Whether it is homemade soup, your favorite casserole, or even something from a restaurant or store, providing a meal is a wonderful act of kindness and can be a catalyst for healing. If you would like to join the team providing food when occasionally needed, please email Betsy Goode (goodehilogirl@cox.net) with your contact information (name, address, email and phone). We have a list of great volunteers and are looking to add to the team!

Questions? Email Betsy at goodehilogirl@cox.net or phone 480-912-5331.

In Need of a Meal?

If you are in need of a meal, please reach out to a clergy member with your request.



Jesse Lara

Green Dog Studio

'Art lives in the moment'

Artist to show February 2, 2019 at 6pm

<https://www.facebook.com/Green-Dog-Studio>

I love creating all types of art. My inspiration comes from observation and reflection on nature and phenomena. God's wonderful creation never ceases to provide themes.

The Mediums used are: Copper, lacquer, paints made from limestone and acrylic, origami, wood and wood stains, water colors, ceramic, metals, laminates and landscape materials.

Almost all of the materials used in my works are re-purposed and the art is very spontaneous. My background is woodworking and drafting, and being self taught, my techniques and materials are unconventional. However I always strive to produce works that are durable and practical to display.



It was a wonderful Advent...

From making Advent Wreaths together, serving CASA Academy families by preparing 30 holiday meal bags, building Gingerbread houses, and greening the church, we sure loved our Advent Sundays with all of you.

Wrapping it all up with the wonderful Christmas Eve pageant was the bow on top! Thank you for helping make this holiday season especially merry and bright.

(We can't wait to do it all again next year!)

**Special thanks to Dina Horsman for snapping some fanatastic photos!*





2019

Bring on the New Year!

Raise your hand if you're looking forward to what this year holds!



We're back up and running with Youth Group, Sunday School, and Children's Chapel. We're also planning some great Faith & Family events for this semester (including a "Lenten Series" of activities for children and their parents to participate in together).

As you move forward with your resolutions and New Years wishes, I want to encourage you to consider how you and your family can grow in faith in 2019. Nativity is a place you can find volunteer opportunities, Christian education, music/worship connections, and fellowship. Is there some new way you can connect? A new group or ministry to try out? A more consistent Sunday morning commitment you can make? We want to be an encouragement and hope you will connect with us if there's a way we can support you and your family.

Here's to a beautiful new year of growth, joy, and love.
Mandy



Building Faith @ Home

Study after study in recent years has reaffirmed what the good book of Proverbs (22:6) has said all along... the influence of parents in faith formation is powerful. In one set of data from the National Study of Youth and Religion, some 82 percent of children raised by parents who talked about faith at home, attached great importance to their beliefs, and were active in their congregations were themselves religiously active as young adults.

TRAIN UP A
CHILD IN THE
WAY HE SHOULD
GO: AND WHEN
HE IS OLD, HE
WILL NOT
DEPART FROM IT.
PROVERBS 22:6

As parents, we teach our children how to walk & talk, assist them in homework, encourage them in their hobbies & interests. On our quest to help our children live the most wonderful life possible, may we remember that the greatest gift we can give them is a foundation of faith... to weather storms, to guide them to what matters in life, to know peace and love.

**All month long, check out the [FREE resources](#) available at the Youth & Children's Resource Center (just outside the youth room) to find fun and meaningful take-home faith activities.

Youth Group Stuff

2 Things

Youth Group meets all month on Sunday mornings from 11AM to 12:15PM. Here are some extra events we've got planned.

Sharpie them onto your calendar!!



1. **Saturday, January 19th - Sunday, January 20th** Youth Group Lock In at Saint Matthew's, Chandler AZ

6:30pm Saturday - 9:00am Sunday morning (meet at Nativity to carpool)
What to Bring: Sleeping bag, pillow, toiletries, change of clothes for Sunday
7:30am service @ St. Matthew's. You'll need to fill out a permission slip as well, but we'll send that to you via email the week of the event.



2. **Friday, March 22nd - Sunday, March 24th** Nativity Youth Group Retreat at Chapel Rock

This weekend is going to be amazing! We hope you will join in as we head up to Chapel Rock in Prescott, AZ for a Lenten Youth Retreat. More info will come out in our February newsletter but for now, save the date!



The Episcopal Church of the Nativity
Mailing Address:
22405 North Miller Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255

www.NativityScottsdale.org
Worship Sundays
8:30 & 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Events

1/9	Centering Prayer	Page 4
	Bible Study	Page 5
	Evening Prayer	Page 5
1/10	Anti-Aging Group	Page 8
1/16	Women's Luncheon	Page 11
1/17	Knitting for Preemies	Page 18
1/19	Youth Group Lock'In	Page 23
1/21	Arts at Nativity Concert	Page 7
1/23	Men's Luncheon	Page 10
1/26	Habitat Build Date	Page 16
1/27	Annual Meeting	Page 1
2/2	CASA Food Packing	Page 16
2/5	Homeless Lunches	Page 18
2/2	Arts At Nativity Concert	Page 6
2/7	Men's Pub Fellowship	Page 10
	Women's Wine Night	Page 11
3/16	CPR Classes at Nativity	Page 9