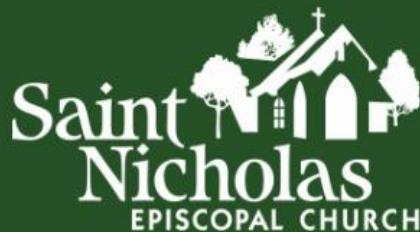


This Week at



JANUARY
22
2026

THE PARISH AT A GLANCE

Worship

SUNDAY, January 25: *The 3rd Sunday After the Epiphany*

Lay Ministers: Sheri Cody, Drucye Cox, Connie Blackmon, Riley-Anne Johnson

Flowers: Margaret Zachry & Beth Brown

ADULT FORUM: What is Wonder Church?

WEDNESDAY, February 4

Evening Prayer 5:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

FEB 1: First Sunday **Wonder Church**

FEB 2: Office closed

FEB 4: St. Nicholas Book Club before Evening Prayer

FEB 8: Scouting Sunday

INSIDE:

- Tax Year Giving Statements
- Wonder Church
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Connect and Serve:

Do you feel called to serve your church at a deeper, more spiritual level? **Lay Eucharistic Ministry** may be what you're looking for. Eucharistic Ministers minister to their fellow congregants by assisting with Sunday services in various capacities. See Father Bob if you would like to explore this ministry.

IN OUR PARISH

2025 Tax Year Giving Statements went out Thursday morning, by email if you have an email address on file with us; otherwise by U.S. mail. If you did not receive one, check your spam folder first, then contact Erin in the office. Also contact Erin if you have any questions about your statement or if you need a hard copy printed for you. Thanks to everyone for your generous support of St. Nicholas in 2025!

WONDER CHURCH is a contemporary, Gospel-focused liturgy accessible to all ages.

Join us for a service that includes thoughtful discussion and a renewal of what you give to – and take away from – Sunday morning worship. Wonder Church will be held on the 1st Sunday of each month – the inaugural service will be February 1, 2026.

Adult Forum after the service Jan 25 will explore what Wonder Church is and what to expect.



Book Club News: At its January meeting, the St. Nicholas Book Club selected *Theo of Golden* by local author Allen Levi. From GoodReads: *Questions linger about Theo, a pleasant but mysterious stranger, after his arrival in the southern city of Golden.... He arrives early one spring and by chance - or is it? - he visits a coffee shop where 92 framed pencil portraits are on display. Inspired, Theo sets out on a mission of purchasing all the portraits one at a time and quietly bestowing them on their 'rightful owners.' Stories are told; friendships are born; and lives are changed.* The St. Nicholas Book Club next meets on **February 4**.

Scouting Sunday is February 8! If you have any Scouts or Scout leaders in your family – current and former - that would like to join us for recognition and small reception after the service, please invite them!

IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Lane Miller of BackSnacks Awarded Scholarship

Lane Miller, former BackSnacks leader, received a \$500 scholarship from the Harris County Men's Club at the MLK Program on Monday. Lane graduated from Harris County High School last year where he excelled in his studies and community service. He is majoring in Psychology at Georgia State University.



Lynn and Charles Norris Nominated for First Annual Absalom Jones Dignity Award

We are so proud to announce that Lynn and Charles Norris have been nominated for this award, which honors those who embody the mission of the Absalom Jones Center and the legacy of Rev.

Absalom Jones. The recipient will be: recognized at the inaugural Dignity Awards Dinner in February, highlighted in the evening's program and celebrated across the diocese as a model of faithful, justice-centered leadership.

Lynn and Charles Norris, members of St. Nicholas Episcopal Church in Hamilton, are two of the founding members of the Community Remembrance Project Harris County, Georgia. Inspired by Striving for Justice Conversations led by Chattahoochee Valley Episcopal Ministry, The Community Remembrance Project is committed to memorializing those whose lives were taken unjustly in terror lynchings in the county. At least nine men and one woman were lynched in Harris County between 1861 and 1947. No perpetrators were named and no charges were brought. In 2022 the Hamilton City Council passed a resolution to recognize these victims and commissioned a citizens group to create a memorial park. The group formed the non-profit Community Remembrance Project which aims to inspire and educate the public about racial injustice, ensuring truth telling and healing regarding this difficult history. Their website, remembranceharriscoga.org describes their ongoing work.

Lynn and Charles are involved with several racial healing initiatives in their county, in addition to the Community Remembrance Project. They credit an early version of Diocese of Atlanta Dismantling Racism Training as well as Striving for Justice conversations offered by CVEM for inspiring them to begin this work and continue it despite obstacles.

You can read more about the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing at centerforracialhealing.org/

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are asked for Cynthia Fest and the family of Jay and Riley-Anne Johnson, Emmie Brand, Dick Wood, Dianne Abernethy, Christine Risdon, Emily Minton, Gene Wells, Hudson Garrett, Peggy Gjertsen, and Kenny Hall and his family. Continued prayers and loving thoughts for our beloved homebound congregants: Mike Sawyer and Liz Dixon.

We pray for wisdom for those in authority, for guidance for those who feel called to action, and for safety and peace for those who feel fear in these times. We continue to pray for all those in need within our community and those in the world who have suffered due to war and natural disaster.



Spotlight: BackSnacks!

St. Nicholas is fortunate that every second Wednesday high school students and friends pack two weeks' worth of BackSnack Bags to deliver to Harris County Schools. Right now, that is 250 bags filled with nutritious, portable food for the weekend for kids living in food insecure environments. These Harris County BackSnacks student leaders are incredible: Not only do they pack food, they promote the program by involving other students in projects such as food drives or painting BackSnacks collection bins.



Wednesday, January 14th was a particularly special pack afternoon. A Harris County School District Communications official came to St. Nicholas to photograph the BackSnacks “pack action.” The School Lunch Angels also visited and donated food for the pack. The focus of the “Angels” is to support any organization that provides food for children in need.

After the pack, our student packers enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies in the St. Nicholas kitchen. After each Wednesday pack, St. Nicholas offers some activity (and always refreshments) for our packers to enjoy. They love hanging out with us, and we enjoy having them.



Harris County BackSnacks operates under St. Nicholas' status as a 501(c)(3) organization. We also offer space, bookkeeping, and publicity. It is amazing how well this program is known in the community, which means St. Nicholas is too!

We have to thank Kathy McMurtry and Aleisha McMurtry for their leadership. A photo

board in the narthex displays some of the other student leaders along with Aleisha. Nate and Ashley Taylor are the St. Nicholas liaisons to the school counselors. Nate deserves a big “thank you” for getting food bags delivered each week.



The next student BackSnacks Pack at St. Nicholas will be Wednesday, February 11th beginning at 3:30. We encourage members of St. Nicholas to come by and say hello to our loyal student packers.

IN OUR WIDER CHURCH

- **News from the Diocese:** [Click here](#) to catch up on what's happening in our own Diocese of Atlanta, including an Events calendar for the few months.
- **News from The Episcopal Church:** [Click here](#) to read The Episcopal Church Weekly.
- **News from the Episcopal Community Foundation:** [Click here](#) to read the latest news.