

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE
6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am
Sunday School & Adult Studies 9:45-10:45 am
352-597-1456

Website: nlcww.org

*"With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love
to the world"*

**In case of a Pastoral emergency, contact Pastor Giuseppe at
978-956-4304.**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
DECEMBER 10th,
9:45 -10:45 am
in Winemiller Hall

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS
DUE TO DARLENE BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2017.



Find us on
Facebook

Website: nlcww.org

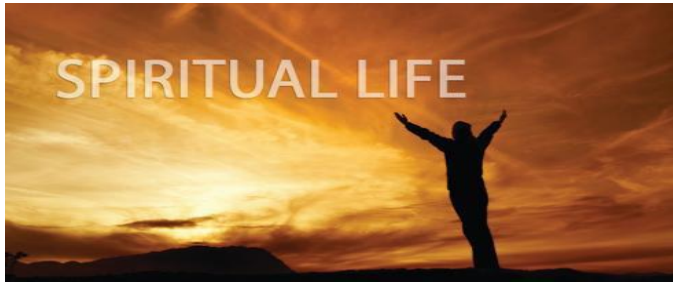


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Facebook

**God bless the brave men and women who risked their
lives to preserve our freedom.**

**Thank you for your service and have a
Happy Veterans Day.**





FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT



This is the time of the year when we prepare for Thanksgiving Day, a day when we pause and reflect on our accomplishments and good fortune, while enjoying the fruits of our labor. The Pilgrims brought the practice of giving thanks which is part of the harvest festival in many cultures with them and here we are after these many years still celebrating this festival

As a young boy in my homeland Barbados, Sunday school kids were taught poems of Thanksgiving to be said during the Harvest Thanksgiving Service. Everyone brought something harvested from the land and placed it at the altar to be blessed. It was our custom of giving thanks to God for providing the yield of the land and the elements to nourish crops.

Here in the USA on a Thursday near the end of November we celebrate Thanksgiving. It's time when we count our blessings, give thanks for the yield of the fields, give thanks for overcoming that bout of illness experienced, that operation we may have had, the gift of a new member to the family, even the gift of the life of a dearly departed friend or family member as we recall the great memories they created while they were with us.

Nativity is most grateful and thankful to the members of this congregation who have been pulling their oars as we sail on the journey of the life of this church. No single person or group should be singled out because we are all in this ship together. Every contribution of your gift of time, talent, and kind has instrumental in the stability of this Church.

As we look in the rearview mirror and see the goals set out this year that were accomplished, let's give ourselves a pat on the back or a "Hi Five" and thank God for seeing us through.

To our Pastor, Congregational Council, Staff, ministry leaders, team leaders and the congregation, I want to extend my sincere thanks for assisting me in my role here at Nativity.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated, may God continue to bless you all.

Thank You, Al Wright. Pres.



Concert Celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation

Sunday, November 12, 2017, 4:00pm

First Presbyterian Church
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Cantata No. 80, "Ein feste Burg," BWV 80, Johann Sebastian Bach
Symphony No. 5 in D minor, "Reformation," Felix Mendelssohn
Concordia Vocal Ensemble
Members of The Florida Orchestra
Dr. Matt Caine, conductor

Concert is free; tickets or advanced reservations are not needed.

A freewill offering will be received to help offset expenses.

Complimentary valet parking will be provided.

Pledge Sunday is November 12. We will receive pledge cards on November 5. We are invited to prayerfully consider our financial contribution for 2018 and drop our card in the basket on November 12.



Thanksgiving Worship Schedule

The Thanksgiving service will be on **Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00 pm at Holy Cross Lutheran Church** (6193 Spring Hill Drive, Spring Hill, FL 34606). We have a standing challenge with our Spring Hill siblings when it comes to common worship services: the church showing the largest number of participants gets recognized with a plaque. Nativity is the largest of the two and we have easily won the contest. However, not everybody likes to travel to unknown territory. Therefore, everybody is encouraged to attend. **If anyone can offer rides or needs a ride, please call the church office at 352-597-1456.**

FREE

THANKSGIVING DINNER



**Wednesday, November 22nd, from
1:00 – 4:00 pm
at
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Address: 6193 Spring Hill Drive
Spring Hill, FL 34606

Phone: (352) 683-9016



CHRISTMAS CANTATA December 17th, at both services. A Gospel Christmas Celebration of carols and original anthems.



Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

This year Christmas falls on a Monday. **Our Christmas Eve worship services on Sunday, December 24, will be at 4:00 pm and at 10:00 pm.** If anyone can offer rides or needs a ride, please call the church office at 352-597-1456. Please note: there are **NO morning services on Sunday, December 24.**



Adult Forums

November 19 Cheryl Bennett
A New Generation

Join Executive Director Cheryl Bennett of A New Generation Pregnancy and Relationship Center for Adult Forum on **November 19.** She will share what the Lord is doing in and through this ministry. She will be communicating specifics about Hernando county, the services provide and the impact of they are having. Additionally, she will provide insight regarding the history of A New Generation and pregnancy centers in general, the current state of abortion in our nation, and the hope of healing and restoration after past choices. You will hear from a former client whose life was impacted by A New Generation. There will be a time of questions and answers after each session.

You are invited to a **new discipleship series starting December 17**. Too often Christians believe that *what* they do is more important of *who* they are in Christ. To be a follower of Jesus is not about *doing something* or *practicing something*. We become followers of Jesus when we accept Christ present in our hearts and welcome a relationship with him. Our manual will be ***The 7 Habits of Jesus*** by the Rev. Robert Shmalzle, a ELCA ordained pastor serving in our very own Florida-Bahamas Synod. *The 7 Habits of Jesus* provides comprehensive and practical ways for Christians to live as disciples of Christ in the world today. This is what some say about the book:

"In a rapidly changing religious landscape, the church of the 21st century will need to function more like the church of the 1st century. Jesus sent the church with the mandate to make disciples by baptizing and teaching. I am thrilled to recommend *The 7 Habits of Jesus* to every community that is passionate about shaping disciples for daily ministry in a 21st century world. Here we have a useful roadmap to equip the saints to participate in God's reconciling work in the world." Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, (Former) *Bishop Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA*

"The 7 Habits of Jesus provides a comprehensive and accessible way for churches to actually get (back) into the business of making disciples. A particular strength of *The 7 Habits of Jesus* is the method of combining the three dimensions of engagement: self-study, fellowship groups, and partnerships. If you want real and enduring change in your relationship with Jesus for the sake of God's mission in the world, use the tool *The 7 Habits of Jesus*." Rev. Dr. Johan Bergh *Pastor, Coordinator for Coaching, ELCA*

Group of four will be formed. Each group will meet once a month and will be assigned a Sunday to meet during Adult Forum. A fifth group will meet one Wednesday a month.

The cost of the book is \$24.99 but affordability should not stop you; grants are available. To sign up for the class call the church office at 352-597-1456 immediately and indicate if you want to be part of a Sunday or weekday group.



We provide nursery care during the 8:30 and 11:00 am worship services.

Cindy Rogers will be happy to assist
you and your children.



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday morning from **9:45-10:45 am**
Classes for children **3 and up!**



CONFIRMATION CLASSES

There will be a confirmation class on
Saturday, November 11th, 10:00 am –12:30 pm
If you are interested in your child attending these classes,
please call the office at **352-597-1456**.

We need of **READERS, GREETERS**



and **USHERS**.

If you feel a call to serve in any of those ministry
areas, please call the office at **352-597-1456**.
Training is available.



You are cordially invited to join the Altar Guild. We invite anyone (male or female) to attend one of our meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am, (to find out what we do and how we do it), or if you have any questions you would like answered before that **call Janet DeVico at 352- 597-0150**.



BELL CHOIR RINGERS NEEDED-Come join the fun on Tuesday nights at 6:30 pm to play bells. No experience necessary, only requirement is the ability to count! We will train. We play monthly during the worship service. **Call Jane Henkel 1-651-402-1473 with any questions.**



JOIN THE CHOIR-Choir is seeking new members. No experience necessary, just come and make a joyful noise. We rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. We sing at alternating services each Sunday. We will begin working on the Christmas Cantata in a couple of weeks, which is scheduled for **Sunday, December 18th, both services.** Come join us. Singing is good for your health, heart and soul.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Tuesday, November 21st, 8:30AM

Perkins Restaurant, 4685 Commercial Way, Spring Hill

The Men of Nativity enjoy their usual monthly breakfast get together.

Next month join us for our Gala Christmas get together, bring your significant others.



PATTER FROM PATTI

Thank you to all who helped with our Reformation Fall Festival, this was our 3rd year and they get bigger and better every time. We are so appreciative of the interest and enthusiasm of all the Nativity family. This month we jump into the holiday season with all it entails. Here is what the Fellowship committee has got planned for your enjoyment:



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18TH, 5:00 pm SPAGHETTI DINNER/ TEAM TRIVIA

Before we start eating all the Thanksgiving goodies, come join us for some good ole Italian comfort food, the menu will include: spaghetti, meatballs, salad, crusty bread, ice cream, and beverages. following dinner, we will divide into teams for a rousing game of Team Trivia. The winning team will be rewarded "big prizes" Former contests have been exciting and "ruthless." Tickets will be \$5.00 for adults and \$1.00 for kids. They go on sale October 29th.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH SHOW PALACE

All the tickets are sold out, you may pick up your purchased tickets on **Sunday, November 12th, in the narthex.**

The Fellowship committee is in the process of planning for 2018, possibilities include, plays, concerts, mystery dinner and fashion show. keep watching the newsletter for details. The committee has donated \$300 towards the purchase of a new Christmas Tree for the sanctuary. Your support of our events gives us the funds to be able to do this. Thank you. If you have any questions give me a call at [352-797-9682](tel:352-797-9682) or pattiwithani@tampabay.rr.com.



Mark your calendar and plan on attending the Women of Nativity (WON) Christmas Luncheon on **Saturday, December 2nd, 11:30 a.m. at the church.** Reservations are \$10.00 and can be made in the narthex starting November 12th. Everyone please bring a dozen Christmas cookies.



WOMEN'S CIRCLES

LET'S GET TOGETHER TO STAY TOGETHER. Mark **Friday, November 17th, 12:00** on your calendar. That's the next quarterly meeting of Women of Nativity (WON) luncheon meeting in the private room at Kally K's Restaurant. Watch for the sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the narthex to make your reservation.

CRAFTY LADIES meet every **Friday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the church in Al Lien Hall.** Join us for coffee at 10:30 am. All women are welcome. **Call Lilo Horeis 352-666-7584 with questions.**

CARDS R US will make cards on **November 1 and November 8, 12:30-3:00pm** in Winemiller Hall. We enjoy talking as we're making cards (yes, we can multitask). We can always use more help and more cards, so please join us. We'll show you how and provide all supplies. One hundred percent of the profit from donations for the finished cards are given to Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

MARYJOY CIRCLE meets on the **second Thursday of the month November 9th, 12:30 pm at Nativity.** Bible Study by Cam Martin. Rosie Rosten will be facilitator. Hostesses are Elva Posewitz and Jean Drach.

SARAH CIRCLE meets for the last time in 2017 on **November 20 at 6pm** in the youth room. This is a great time to learn how to knit or crochet or to practice what you love to do! The shawls (and lap robes and throws) that we make are given to those in need of prayer - hospitalized, sick, grieving, making a life change, etc. Come pray with us!

DAYS FOR GIRLS *Health. Education. Dignity. Ensure she has what she needs to succeed.* These are the words found on the home page of the website for Days for Girls, a non-profit organization formed to help girls in developing countries stay in school. How can an organization help girls stay in school you may ask? Consider this: When a girl has her monthly period, she stays in her room and sits on a piece of cardboard! She cannot go to school and falls behind in her studies, eventually dropping out altogether.

Days for Girls has come up with a solution: washable, reusable menstrual pads which are kept in a drawstring bag. Along with receiving these kits the girls are taught about health and personal hygiene. They are taught how to care for their pads so that they will last up to 3 years.

Through the Trompeter Fund and Thrivent Financial, Women of Nativity have been able to participate in this mission.

WON continues to have workshops to make the kits. The next one will be on **Thursday, November 16, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at Nativity.** Please consider joining us on this valuable mission project. **Contact Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367 for more information or if you have any questions.**



A Surprising Gift: a testimony from Bishop Gustafson

The following note came from Bishop Roger Gustafson, bishop of the Central States Synod, regarding his community's response to the hurricanes affecting both Florida and Texas.

The Sheikh in charge of the local Islamic center and I have become friends and during a recent breakfast conversation we talked about the immense damage caused by the hurricanes ravaging our southern coasts. I told him about LDR, and he became interested in a special collection during Friday prayers that would go directly to relief efforts in both of your synods (Florida-Bahamas and Gulf Coast).

That special offering happened last Friday. When I picked up the check from him yesterday, the Sheikh apologized for the small amount (\$1K) but said they've been getting a lot of requests for financial aid, and they are prohibited from turning anyone away empty-handed.

Florida Bahamas Interim Bishop Lohrmann sent a note of thanks to the Sheikh and his community that will be read by Bishop Gustafson in an upcoming visit to the mosque.



Mission of the Month

ANGEL TREE MINISTRY **EVERY CHILD HAS A STORY**

Founded in 1982 by an ex-prisoner who witnessed firsthand the strained relationship between prisoners and their children, Angel Tree has grown to become the largest national outreach specifically for the children of prisoners.

For 2.7 million children in the U.S., that story may be filled with the abandonment, loneliness, and shame that come from having a mom or dad in prison. For many, it may also include following their parents down the same destructive road to incarceration. Angel Tree®, a program of Prison Fellowship, reaches out to the children of prisoners and their families with the love of Christ. This unique program gives you an opportunity to share God's love by helping to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the families of prisoners.



DOROTHY TROMPETER TRUST FUND

DOROTHY TROMPETER TRUST FUND-Dorothy Trompeter's Trust Fund has two requirements:

Keep the principal invested and use the income for worthwhile ministries.

Last year, \$65,629.00 in Trompeter Fund income was distributed. The Endowment Committee

Requests that all Nativity members help us identify those ministries, charities and outreach projects that you believe deserve consideration for 2017. Grant applications are available in the Church office. **Completed applications must be in by December 31.** Please spread the word. You may contact the Church office at 352-597-1456.



The Food Pantry at Nativity is always in need of non-perishable items, and that is never truer than at the holiday season. Toiletries such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, women's sanitary pads, shampoos, shaving cream, disposable razors, etc. are needed items that Bonnie does not purchase. Other items are pet food, diapers, and baby wipes. We thank you in advance for your contribution of these items for our pantry.



This holiday season brings good news with the revival of International Village of Hope, Inc., which was started by our congregation in 1998 to help support an elementary school in Haiti. In June of 2016, due to lack of donations, it was necessary to inform everyone that IVOH would be terminated; miracles do happen and one of our supporters that passed away, left our organization \$20,000 to continue our outreach for another school year. This will help our students to continue their education for the 2017-2018 school year and supply them with one hot meal. We ask for your prayers and perhaps God will provide us with and another miracle.



ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS: You can help your church and community by submitting an Action Team Project. If approved, you will receive seed money for your project in the amount of \$250.00 credit card with no strings attached. Here are some projects for you to consider:

1. Thanksgiving bags of food for the Nativity food pantry.
2. Thanksgiving baskets for Eastside Elementary
3. Angel Tree monies for food or gifts for their December event

Contact Tim Cotter 352-797-9682 or Ernie Horeis 352-666-7584 for more information.



Sandy Sander
Janet Recenello
Dorothy Post
Annie Douglas
Susan Eckert
Diane Alt
Carole Schaefer
Syndee Stein
Donna Gallo
Elenor Naizer
Michele Oliver
Eleanor Southey
Brett Hughes
Gloria Mraz
George Smith
Glenn Houdek
Elva Posewitz
Lucas Brennan
Nancy Fish
Karl Jahn
Carl Fish
Cam Martin
Patricia Yoos
Dale Hughes
Michael Jones
Maggie Williams
Dakota Schaub
Angela Russell
Marianne Neubauer
Keisha Schaub
Arthur Olsen
Margaret King

November 1
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November 30

Anniversaries!

Monika and Michael Brennan
Michael and Doreen Davis
Allen and Angela Russell
Marty and Nancy Salzbach
Gaylon and Linda Swenson
Leonore and Gary Kopitzke
Carl and Lynn Roa
Harold and Mary Reber
Jack and Victoria Page





November 4
November 8
November 8
November 16
November 17
November 18
November 20
November 21
November 22

HUGS

It's wondrous what a hug can do.
A hug can cheer you when you're blue.
A hug can say, I love you so, or Gee, I hate to see you go,
And great to see you! Where've you been?
A hug can soothe a small child's pain,
And bring a rainbow after rain.
The Hug! There's no doubt about it...
We scarcely would survive without it!
A hug delights and warms and charms,
It must be why God gave us arms.
Hugs are great for fathers and mothers,
Sweet for sisters and brothers.
And chances are your favorite aunts
Love them more than potted plants.
Kittens crave them...Puppies love them,
Heads of state are not above them.
A hug can break the language barrier,
And make your travels much merrier.
No need to fret about your store of 'em,
The more you give...the more there's more of 'em.
So...stretch those arms without delay
AND GIVE SOMEONE A HUG TODAY!!!

Submitted by Marie Hamilton

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 8:00 Folders 9:00 TOPS, Crafty Ladies 5:30 Daisies 6:00 Daisies Lake Yale	11 Veterans Day 10:00-12 Confirmation Class Lake Yale
 <p>PLEDGE SUNDAY 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45-10:45 Sunday School, Adult Forum Lake Yale</p>	12 8:30 Counters 7:00 Harmonizers	13 10:30 Fellowship 1:00 Wisconsin Board 6:30 Ringers	14 10:00 Altar Guild 12:00 Michigan Club 3:00 Council on Ministries 6:00 Choir, Cub Scouts	15 9:00 TOPS	16 8:00 Folders 9:00 TOPS, Crafty Ladies 12:00 WON BOARD AT KALLY K's 5:30 Daisies 6:00 Daisies	17 5:00 Spaghetti Dinner
18 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45-10:45 Sunday School, Adult Forum	19 8:30 Counters 3:00 Communication Team 6:00 Sarah Circle 7:00 Harmonizers	20 8:30 Men's Breakfast 2:30 Council 6:30 Ringers 7:00 Thanksgiving Service at Holy Cross	21 1:00 Thanksgiving Dinner at Holy Cross 6:00 Choir, Cub Scouts	22 Thanksgiving Day OFFICE CLOSED	23 8:00 Folders OFFICE CLOSED	24
25 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 9:45-10:45 Sunday School	26 8:30 Counters 7:00 Harmonizers CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS DUE	27 6:30 Ringers	28 12:30 Cards R Us 6:00 Choir, Cub Scouts	29 9:00 TOPS	30	