



Happenings at NLC

November 2018

Monthly Newsletter

“With the birth of Jesus in our hearts,
we carry light and love to the world.”

Worship Services 8:30am & 11am

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Thanks be to God



Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 20, 2018-7PM

Pie Social to follow service

Important Dates to Remember

November 6 — Election Day

November 17 — Youth vs. Adult Game Night

November 20 — Thanksgiving Service

Please visit our website at www.nlcww.org to view the NLC calendar, submit requests for dates or events, download sermons, among other things.



COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Watching the evening news this year it seems as though this world is falling apart at the seams, all of this as Mother Nature tells us who is in control.

We've seen the raging fires in the West, as homes are burnt to the point where there is nothing left but the fireplace chimney. Floods in parts of this Country and in distant lands have eroded the landscape, and in many cases have resulted in the loss of life.

We've seen tsunamis and earthquakes wipe out communities as the wall of water comes ashore taking away everything and everyone in its path.

We've just seen the damage caused by Hurricane Michael in the Panhandle area of Florida and other surrounding areas as it destroys everything as it moves on its path.

Having gone through these natural disasters, the common response from survivors was "I am very lucky to be alive and I give God thanks for that, the material things can be replaced but certainly not my life."

As people who have lost all their earthly possessions give thanks for spared lives, so too those of us who have not had that experience, should give thanks to God for sparing us this year, as we never know what is in store for us in the future.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving this year, let us remember those who have had the foresight to set the goal of making Nativity Lutheran Church the place of worship and fellowship in this community.

Let us give thanks to every member and friend of this congregation who have given their time, talent, and resource to keep this ship sailing along on this spiritual journey.

If you have not visited our Administration Office recently, I urge you to drop by and see the improvements made by the volunteers mentioned in October Edition of *The Communicator*, as we prepare to welcome our new Office Administrator.

Here's wishing you and your family A VERY BLESSED THANKSGIVING.

Al Wright, President

SPIRITUAL LIFE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018 — 8:30AM & 11:00AM SERVICES — Veterans Day

Please join us on Sunday November 11th inviting friends and family as we thank our veterans for their service, the men and women who served in our armed forces guarding our freedom. Following each service please join us in the Narthex where we will serve light refreshments of cake, coffee and ice tea in a small gesture of our appreciation.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE — Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2018 —7:00PM

Members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church will join us for worship and for the pie social following the service. A table will be set up in the sanctuary for you to bring an item (e.g. a photo, a rock, an embroidery) that symbolizes what you are thankful for this year. This celebration will be a good opportunity to invite a friend to join us for worship and social.

ALTAR GUILD - Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018 - 10:00AM

Our next meeting will be at 10am in the Library. For more info, please contact Janet DeVico at 352-598-0150. New members area always welcome.

SOUL SEEKERS - Monday, Nov. 12, 2018 — 7:00PM

This group is designed to support and encourage our relationships with God as we face the challenges and joys together. Included in our time together will be times of silence, times of reflection, times of sharing, times of journaling, times of prayer, times of reading scripture, times of being in the presence of God, times to share images of God and our spiritual journey, times to experience elements that bring us closer to God through touch and taste and sight and hearing and smell.

This group is open to all...anyone who is seeking and has a willingness to explore their relationship with God is welcome! Questions please contact Michelle Mehan-Conklin at 727-267-1047 or email at shelltbf@hotmial.com

EVANGELISM - Monday, November 19, 2018 - 3:00PM

If you would like to join the Evangelism team, please feel free to join us at our next meeting.



You can order your Sanctuary Poinsettia beginning the last Sunday of this month, November 25th.

Please consider ordering a Poinsettia to provide a dramatic impact in the visual of our Christmas Worship Celebration.

Still \$8.00 each

“Marriage Secrets” or how we keep our marriage together

During a sermon on Mark 10 that speaks about divorce, Pr. Giuseppe asked us to share what we do to keep our marriage or, in other words, what our secrets are. Here is what we shared in no particular order:

1. Love and forgive with all your heart.
2. Be best friends.
3. 50 years equal partners. He still thinks I am beautiful. Don't forget to say you love each other.
4. Forgive! Forgive! Forgive! Forgive! 7x77 more FOR-GIVE.
5. Listening, selflessness, sense of humor.
6. Affirm each other.
7. We were married 59 years when Brooks passed away. Love each other and thank God for all his blessings.
8. Trusting each other and work together in any situation and trust God.
9. Communication, patience, lots of laughter. Above all our love for God.
10. Always loving God in my heart to guide me.
11. We pay attention to all the little things we do for each other and remember to be thankful for the blessings each brings to the relationship. Bill always says “Yes, dear” and I always say “Thank you.”
12. Open communication, love and understanding helped us through 61 years of marriage.
13. I've learned his likes and dislikes and honored them.

Continued...

14. Love God. Love yourself. Cherish the love of God,
Share that love with everyone you make contact with.
15. Unconditional love – easy.
16. Think of your spouse first, not yourself.
17. 43 years = forgiveness, humor, unconditional love.
18. Being and doing together. Being and doing apart.
Sharing in every way possible.
19. Couples find so many things to argue about. Before
deciding to react or say something critical, examine the
issue. If it is important to you fight on. If it is not on your
list of “Important things” than give in, say nothing,
swallow your pride but don’t argue for anything that is
not really important to you.
20. Because of God’s love, it’s easy to find good in
everyone.
21. Love is easy, hate is hard.
22. Respect and laughter.
23. Attend church. Read the Bible. Volunteer. Talk over
problems.

Such is the wisdom that we share and accompanies us!

ALTAR FLOWERS—If you would like to purchase flowers for the altar in honor or memory of a loved one or event, please sign up in the narthex. For those people who have purchased bouquets, the Altar Guild will have them ready for you to pick up after the 11 o’clock service. **PLEASE**, do **not** remove flowers from the altar.

NLC’S SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - Every service is easily accessible from Nativity’s website. **ALSO**, Sunday night at 6pm, tune in to WZEU-FM 102.9 on your radio for a rebroadcast of our previous weeks’ Sunday Service. If you are Interested in sponsoring one of the services broadcast on WZEU in memory or honor of someone, cost is \$25 and place your donation in a green envelope and mark it WZEU and place in the offering plate.

OUTREACH

MISSION OF THE MONTH — ANGEL TREE

This ministry works with children whose parent(s) or guardian may be incarcerated, as well as those children who are deemed economically disadvantaged.

Tis the season to celebrate our Christ. Once again we would like to share this with the less fortunate. We will be hosting a Christmas party for these children. Last year the participation we received from the Nativity family was wonderful. The party will be on December 15th in Al Lien hall from 1-3 o'clock.

The Angel Tree will be located in the narthex. If you would like to make a donation to this ministry, please take an envelope off the tree and place it in the offering plate.

Thank you for bringing joy into these children's Christmas.

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The Mission Endowment Funds have two requirements:

1. Keep the principal invested.
2. Use the income for worthwhile ministries.

Last year, \$67,592.00 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.

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 or any of the Endowment Committee members if you have any questions.

SEEDS FOR HAITI. Hurricanes have devastated the food crops and fruit trees in Haiti. The Lutheran Church in Haiti (ELH) is one of the companion churches. We want to help replant crops. Drought resistant seeds will be purchased in Haiti. The Haiti Task Force is asking all 185 FB Synod congregations to help. 10 people donating \$5 equals \$50. Would you please donate? Please write your check to Nativity Lutheran Church and in the memo indicate “**Seeds for Haiti.**” If every congregation helps, we could send \$10,000 to the ELH for seeds. Together, we can make a huge difference! Thank you.

The Florida-Bahamas Synod has shared that Messiah Lutheran Church in Panama City was severely damaged and that Pr. Mary Faith Nesmith, Interim Pastor at Messiah, experienced severe damage to the home she was renting. Damage is so extreme that she will have to relocate. Other ELCA churches have been affected and individual members of churches are trying to recover. We can help through financial donations or gift cards for WalMart, Home Depot, Lowes, Publix, etc. If you would like to assist, please put a check made out to Nativity Lutheran Church or gift cards in a green envelope that is marked for Hurricane Michael Relief. The church will send contributions to the Florida-Bahamas Synod Disaster Relief Fund. In addition, we can continue to pray for the people of the Panhandle of Florida.

COMMUNITY LIFE

WOMEN OF NATIVITY (WON)

Women of Nativity—The Fall Gathering 2018 for Florida-Bahamas Synodical Women's Organization, will be held at Lake Yale November 9-11. All are welcome. Join your WELCA sisters for a great weekend--2 nights lodging, six meals, workshops, worship, laughter, renewal, fun and fellowship for \$209. Registration and workshop forms are available on the website: www.flwelca.com

ANNUAL WON CHRISTMAS LUNCH—Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018—12 Noon - SAVE THE DATE!

All women of Nativity are invited. Tickets will go on sale in November. Watch for details in November bulletins. Entertainment will be included. Join us for fun and food as we celebrate the start of the Christmas season.

CARDS R US - Wednesday, Nov. 7 & 14, 2018 - 12:30PM-3PM

The Cards R Us group will be making greeting cards from your used, donated greeting cards on Nov. 7 & 14. All are welcome to join us from 12:30-3:00 in Al Lien Hall. Check out our selection of Thanksgiving cards on Nativity's card kiosks. All your donations for our finished creations will be given to Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

MARY JOY CIRCLE -Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018 -12:30PM

Our monthly Bible study continues on Thursday, Nov.8, at 12:30pm. All women of Nativity are invited to join us and we look forward to welcoming you.

PAINTING CLASS - Wednesday, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2018 - 10AM-12 NOON. We meet every Wednesday in Al Lien Hall. For more information, contact Germaine Major at 352-686-0416 or Penny Morman at 352-888-1829.

FELLOWSHIP – PATTY FROM PATTI

Can you believe it is November already and time to head into the holidays? Here is what Fellowship has coming up:

Friday, November 16th 4:00 SCHLACHTFEST

German American Club has invited us to join them for their annual Schlachtfest. You say what is that? Lilo tells us it is a big night to include Dinner of Smoked Pork, Knockwurst, Mashed Potatoes, Sauerkraut, Rolls, Dessert. It is a bring your own beverage. After dinner, dance to the music of a live band. We must tell them by November 8th how many tickets we have sold. They are \$22.00. So buy yours today.

Tuesday, November 20th after Thanksgiving worship service - PIE SOCIAL

Join us to kick off the holiday for our Pie social after the service. There will be a sign up sheet on the kiosk in the narthex. Just bring your pie in before you head to the service. We always get a great variety, yum.

Sunday, December 16th Cantata Brunch After 11:00 Service

The Fellowship Committee and our Choir invite you as our guests to a Christmas brunch following the 11:00 service which will include the Cantata, *BEHOLD A SAVIOR*. Please sign up on the kiosk in the narthex so we know how many people will attend. It's a great way to share the season with our Nativity family before so many leave town.

A big thank you to all who helped with the Fall Festival, a fun time was had by all. We always welcome new Fellowship members, give us a try.

Patti Cotter

SARAH CIRCLE - Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018 - 6:30PM

If you like to knit or crochet - or you would like to learn - please join us. We can provide you will all the necessary materials (or you may use your own). Prayer shawls are a tactile way of saying a prayer for someone in need. Call or email Kim Mehan with questions 727-207-0071 or kmehan57@gmail.com.

CRAFTY LADIES - Fridays, 9:00AM-11:00AM

We meet at church in Al Lien Hall. Join us for coffee at 10:30 am. All women are welcome. Please call Lilo Horeis at 352-666-8584 with any questions.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - Friday, Nov. 9, 2018 - 2:30PM

We will deliver teddy bears to our local Fire Station and to the Florida Highway Patrol. Please meet at Nativity at 2:30 to carpool. Following the teddy bear deliveries, we will have our meeting and devotions, as well as share a Mexican dinner, at Alejandro's, 7380 Broad St., Brooksville. For those who want to take in Friday Night Live at the bandshell in downtown Brooksville, bring a lawn chair. Call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918 for further information.

DAYS FOR GIRLS — Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 — 9:00am-11AM

Days for Girls is a non-profit organization formed to help girls in developing countries stay in school. Through the Trompeter Fund and Thrivent Financial, WON have been able to participate in this life changing mission. Please consider joining us. Contact Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367 for more information.

MEN'S BREAKFAST – Tuesday, Nov. 20, 2018 –8:30AM

Join us at Perkins Restaurant, 4685 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, for fellowship and breakfast. For more info on this group, please call Jim Christensen at 352-683-9141.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Discipleship)

**BIBLE STUDY – Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018-9:45-10:45AM—
Witnesses to the Resurrection**

The class is co-led by Pr. Giuseppe and Deacon Clyde Rosten and will explore the **Witnessing of the Early Church** following the Resurrection of Jesus. This class is a very basic exploration of the Christian Scriptures' references to the Church's self-awareness of being a light to the world.



Some of the questions we'll try to answer are:

What was the local environment like?

What was important to the Christian community?

What were the major themes the authors of the "Christian Scriptures" wanted to share with their fellow Christians and their neighbors?

Please, bring your own Bible.

This Bible Study will run every Sunday through January (most likely due to shorter class times on Sunday as well as when there are other things scheduled on Sunday such as the Congregational Meeting and Sundays when there is only one service).

If you have any questions, please talk to Pr. Giuseppe.

CONFIRMATION CLASS – Sunday, Nov. 11 & 25, 2018 - 9:45AM

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL — Sunday mornings

Youth Group

YOUTH VS. ADULT GAME NIGHT REMATCH - Saturday, November 17, 2018—6PM-9PM

It's the youth vs. the adults in a night of games! Come join the fun—all ages are welcome.

HELPING HANDS - Do you have a light-duty job around your home that you would need some helping hands? Your Nativity Youth Group will get together once a month to help you move things, change light bulbs, retrieve and setup decorations, light yard work and weeding, wash windows and any small, unskilled job you have needed some help with. Please find the helping hands box in the Narthex, complete the form and place in the box. We will contact you and plan to get together once a month to complete these jobs.

NEEDED — YOUTH GROUP ADULT HELPERS

We know many people within the congregation have expressed wanting to help with the youth group. We would like to compile a list of all of you so we may contact you. We have many events scheduled that we need extra people to help. Some of those events are Cook4Kids, 2nd Sunday after 2nd service, outdoor adventures, flocking, Helping Hands and many others. Please contact Lorrie DeFrancesco at (727) 667-7293 or email ljdefran2323@gmail.com to have some fun with the youth.

MISCELLANEOUS

COUNTERS NEEDED

Every week on Monday donations are counted by a group of volunteers who sort envelopes into numerical order, open them, indicate the amounts and run an adding machine tape to prove each group of envelopes. The group meets at 8:45 each week and it takes 1-1.5 hours of time. If you are interested in helping us out, please see or call Ernie Horeis at 352-666-7584.

OFFICE HOURS CHANGING

Effective October 29, the office hours will be Monday through Friday, 9AM-2PM.

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS DUE

All ministry teams and committees are asked to turn in an annual report to the church office by December 10.

The report should include a look back at the accomplishments of the past year as well as look forward to the new year of ministry.

HELP

With so many of our members being temporarily (after surgeries and medical procedures) or permanently housebound more people are needed to bring them Holy Communion. If God is calling you for this important ministry, please contact Pr. Giuseppe. A short training is available.

WINEMILLER HALL—Nov. 5-7

NLC is a polling place for Election Day (Nov. 6), therefore, access to Winemiller Hall is unavailable from 9am Monday, November 5 until 12pm Wednesday, November 7. The only access would be if that is your voting precinct on Nov. 6 and you go there to vote.

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank everybody for their prayers, cards and well wishes for my recent operation and sickness. I certainly appreciate it. Prayers always help. Thanks again.

Marianne Mock

SAVE THE DATE!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - Sunday, Dec. 9, 2018 - 9:45AM-10:45AM

The meeting will be in Winemiller Hall between services. We hope you can attend.

SUNDAY, Dec. 16, 2018—8:30AM—This will be a brief communion service.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA “BEHOLD, A SAVIOR” - Sunday, Dec. 16, 2018 - 11AM Service ONLY.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE - Wednesday, Dec. 19—6PM

SUNDAY, Dec. 23, 2018 - Only 1 service at 10AM

CHRISTMAS EVE—Monday, Dec. 24, 2018—4PM Service with Children’s Christmas Pageant & 10PM Service

SUNDAY, Dec. 30, 2018 - Only 1 service at 10M “Healing Service”

REMINDERS

WE WANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU.

We understand that not everybody is online and receives the church information through emails, Facebook, or our web-based calendar. If you know of anyone that has not been able to attend church for some time you may be the only link between them and Nativity. We would appreciate it if you would keep them included in the happenings at Nativity so that they may not miss out on activities or schedule changes. In addition, please let us know as well so that we can work to keep them in the loop about things at NLC. In addition, should you have a change in your address, phone number and/or email address, please let the office know. You can also include that info on the white communion cards. Thank you.

MAILBOXES - When you come to church, please take a moment to check your mailbox in Winemiller Hall and see if anything was left for you. Thank you.

NEWSLETTER — If you would like to have something included in the **DECEMBER** newsletter, please submit it to the office or via email to nativitylutheran63@gmail.com and also to Evelyn Galli via email to evgalli@bcany.com by **Nov. 15**. Thank you.

NLC CALENDAR — You can view it on the website, www.nlcww.org. If you do not have access to the website please let us know and we can arrange for you to receive a printed copy. In addition, on the website you can submit a request to schedule a meeting. As we have many ministries scheduling meetings as well as non-NLC groups, if you need to reserve a room, please make sure you submit your request to the office (the office has a form that can be filled out and submitted) or via email to nativitylutheran63@gmail.com or via the form on the website. This will help resolve any conflicts that may arise.

October 28, 2018

Congratulations!

Congratulations to our Confirmands

Jason Martin

Christine Roa

Desiree Mattei

Julie Roa

Hailey Patterson

David Smith

Sean Patterson

Welcome



Welcome to our New Members

Patricia Marie Brown

Johnny Mullins

Renee Desilets

Ivette Sanchez

David Ennes

Cherylann Schneider

Natalie Goff

Ahmec Torres

Valerie Mahon

Cheryl Wolfe

Brenda Mullins

Philip Wolfe

MISSION STATEMENT

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts, we carry light and love to the world, trusting that the Christmas miracle will be reborn in us.

VISION STATEMENT

We seek to become people who live the nativity by...

Giving Worship and Praise to our God:

Presenting ourselves before God as adoring servants, who, in loving God, recognize that it is no longer we who are at the center of the universe, but the One to whom we are singing our praises.

Intentionally giving ourselves as Christ's

servants: Participating in his mission in the world, helping those who need our help, both in our church family and in the world beyond: recognizing that there can never really be any peace or joy for us until there is peace and joy for others.

Opening our doors and our hearts to all

people: Welcoming all to our fellowship, caring for all in Christian love, and reaching out with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Being responsible to God

through the creative use of our income, possessions, time and talent; recognizing that loving our neighbor is not so much a feeling as it is an act of will, and

that sharing what we have on behalf of the Kingdom of God is only giving back what was already God's to be with.

Encouraging each other to grow in faith:

Growing our understanding of the scripture and God's leading in our lives through study of the Word, meditation, and prayer; knowing that learning is not just a matter of the mind, but also of the heart, and that raising questions is sometimes of more value than finding answers.

Celebrating the gift of life together: Loving our neighbor, losing ourselves and then finding ourselves, having discovered that the Good News means that it is impossible not to feel joy in the presence of the Savior.

VALUES STATEMENT

We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ. We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ. In this fellowship "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus" (*Galatians 3:28*). We therefore welcome equally all people, regardless of religious office, position, possession, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability, or other distinctions.

November Birthdays

Sandra Sander	11/1		
Janet Recenello	11/2		
Annie Douglas	11/5		
Susan Eckert	11/5		
Andrew Smith	11/5		
Diane Alt	11/7		
Judith Keiser	11/8		
Carole Schaefer	11/8		
Rosemarie Still	11/10		
Donna Gallo	11/11	Carl Fish	11/20
Elenor Naizer	11/11	Cam Martin	11/20
Michele Oliver	11/11	Dale Hughes	11/21
Marian Lyons	11/13	Michael Jones	11/21
Eleanor Southey	11/13	Maggie Williams	11/21
Gloria Mraz	11/14	Dakotah Schaub	11/22
William Binns	11/16	Angela Russell	11/23
George Smith	11/16	Keisha Schaub	11/26
Glenn Houdek	11/17	Arthur Olsen	11/27
Elva Posewitz	11/17	Margaret King	11/30
Lucas Brennan	11/19		
Nancy Fish	11/19		



November Anniversaries

Monika & Michael Brennan	11/4
Doreen & Michael Davis	11/8
Angela & Evander Russell	11/8
Kimberly & Daniel Still	11/9
Michelle & Glen Maves	11/12
Nancy & Martin Salzbach	11/16
Linda & Gaylon Swenson	11/17
Leonore & Gary Kopitzke	11/18
Lynn & Carl Roa	11/20
Mary & Harold Reber	11/21
Victoria & Jack Page	11/22

