



# Happenings at NLC

October 2019

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



**Saturday, October 19, 2019—5PM**

## Upcoming Events

October 4 - Blessing of the Animals

October 6 - World Communion Sunday

October 12 - New Member Class

October 27 - Reformation Sunday

November 3 - All Saint's Day

Please visit our website at [www.nlcww.org](http://www.nlcww.org) to view the NLC calendar, submit requests for dates/events, download sermons, among other things.



6363 Commercial Way, Weeki  
Wachee, FL 34613 • 352-597-1456 •  
[www.nlcww.org](http://www.nlcww.org)

## *LETTER FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT*

October is here and it means that we are starting the fourth quarter of the year! We have begun to experience the return of our church family members who have spent the summer months away. It is very nice to see more people in the congregation for worship, and I'm sure we all look forward to having time for fellowship with those we have missed this summer. As I mentioned last month, activities are beginning to increase, and we are at the point when your Council starts working with the Finance Committee and the Lay Leadership Committee to prepare for the upcoming Congregational Meeting that will take place between services on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Finance Committee is trying some new approaches this year as they prepare a budget for 2020. Our treasurer, Evelyn Galli, has been compiling a list of expenses from this year that weren't budgeted. Many are expenses that are necessary, but they are often overlooked. The Finance Committee has met with some committee chairpersons who have line items in our normal budget, and we will continue to work with them to identify specific needs for the coming year. We also are facing the expense of refinancing of our mortgage in 2020. This, coupled with reduced giving through the offering plate, requires that we take a hard look at next year's budget and a renewed look at our sources of income. We are looking for ways to do things differently in 2020. We want to accomplish our tasks, pay our bills, worship God, and share the love of Jesus with our community; but we would like to do so in a more cost-effective manner. If you have ideas for improving our finances, please share them with the Council or Finance Committee members.

The Lay Leadership Committee is beginning to look for candidates to fill the elected positions of our church. This can be a daunting task, but it can be made easier if we all start praying about how we can each serve our congregation and use the talents God has given us. We may not all serve on the Congregation Council, but we all need to be open to God's call to be part of this body that governs the church. This year we will be looking for four people for Council – three positions will be for three years and one for two years. There will be one position on the Mission Endowment Committee for a three-year term. Additionally, the Lay Leadership Committee will be looking for individuals to represent our church at the Florida-Bahamas Synod Assembly next June. The Assembly is from June 5-7, 2020, in Orlando. Please consider this opportunity to represent our church in the business of the Synod and learning so much about how the ELCA functions in Florida and the Bahamas. This is an excellent opportunity for service and personal growth. Per the Bylaws of the church, two positions for the Lay Leadership Committee will be elected this year. Pastor Mattei and I will be responsible for identifying candidates for these slots. If you are interested in serving in any position mentioned, please feel free to talk with Pastor, me, Vicki Page (who is the chairperson of the Lay Leadership Committee) or other members of the Lay Leadership Committee. If you are approached by the committee, please consider their appeal. They are working diligently and prayerfully to find individuals who are willing to serve our church. May God bless this committee in their important work.

***Blessings in Christ,***

***Ed Lewis***

# SPIRITUAL LIFE

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - October 4, 2019, 10:00AM.** On the occasion of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, we will have our annual Blessing of the Animals in our courtyard at 10:00AM. Please bring your pets and invite your friends to bring their pets for a moment of prayer and a blessing on each pet.

## **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY—October 6, 2019**

On October 6th, our sanctuary will be adorned with 101 world flags donated by members of the congregation in observance of World Communion Sunday, a reminder of the global Christian community to which we belong as "one holy catholic church." Don't miss it and bring your friends!

**ALTAR GUILD – October 16, 2019, 10:00AM.** We invite anyone (male or female) to attend one of our meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 10:00AM (to find out what we do and how we do it). If you have any questions you would like answered before that please, call **Janet DeVico at 352-597-0150.**

**MIDDAY PRAYER - Weekdays at 12:30PM.** The Midday Prayer is a brief break during the day to find rest and renewal in prayer. All are welcome. People may gather for a few moments together at **12:30PM every day** and then go about the rest of their day or if they would like, they can stay longer in prayer in the sanctuary. Please join us and help spread the word.

**SOUL SEEKERS - October 14, 7:00PM.** We would like to welcome you to be a part of a Spirituality Group at Nativity Lutheran Church. This group is designed to support and encourage our relationships with God as we face the challenges and joys together. We will meet the second Monday of the month from 7:00PM to 9:00PM, in the Sanctuary. We will share our own experiences of God and learn from one another how to make our relationship with God stronger and more meaningful. 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.... young, not so young, male, female, community members, members, friends, 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 shelltbfb@hotmail.com.

## **REFORMATION SUNDAY — OCTOBER 27, 2019**

We will welcome our new members at the 11:00AM service. We hope you will join us at this service.

**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 — CHURCH EXPENSES

Due to two unexpected large bills, we are dedicating the Mission of the Month to the Termite Treatment Plan (\$2,000), and to the water consumption (\$1,700), an outside spigot was found on in the back of the Administration building - the issue has been corrected and preventive measures taken. Please use a green envelope for your donation, make checks payable to Nativity, and mark it "mission of the month". Thank you!

## A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIVITY FOOD PANTRY

To everyone who donates to the pantry and feels that it is a blessing, God Bless You! It truly is a blessing to those who have lost their job, to those who live on social security, to those who live in the woods, and to the family with six children. They are very thankful.

The clothes rack is also a blessing. The woman living in the woods whose clothes got soaked, who even got a jacket along with some dry clothes to put on, for the man who needed a decent shirt to wear to a job interview, the woman who needed something to wear to her daughters wedding, the woman and her children who had to leave their possessions behind due to a dangerous situation at home, all found their needs met on our clothes rack.

*Thank you.*

*Bonnie Kuester*

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Discipleship)

**ADULT FORUM - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 13, & 20, 9:45AM in Winemiller Hall.** In 2013, the ELCA adopted a Social Statement, “The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries.” This statement acknowledges both the strengths and problems in the criminal justice system as well as our commitment as people of faith to care and respond. In the adult forum we will spend several weeks exploring this statement, listening to a wide range of people who have been impacted by the system, including prisoners, lawyers, officers and family members, and asking, “What would God have us do?” We invite you to this important and timely discussion led by Kim and Michelle Mehan-Conklin.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, in Winemiller Hall - “Lions, Rams, and Goats—O My!: Exploring an Old Testament Apocalypse”**  
Does the prophet Daniel predict the end of the world in our generation as many TV evangelists purport? Come, find out, at our fall Bible Study on the Book of Daniel beginning Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, and continuing for ten weeks. The study will be led by Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgeson and will meet from 7:30PM to 9:00PM. All are welcome to attend. No previous experience necessary!

**ADULT FORUM - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27TH, 9:45AM in Winemiller Hall** - Gail Calvi-MacConnell will be presenting the Adult Forum on October 27th on the Guardian Ad Litem program. All are welcome to attend!

**CONFIRMATION CLASS** - We have 2 groups this year. Group 1 meets the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and Group 2 meets the 2nd and 4th. At 9:45AM we will start out in Al Lien Hall for music practice, then proceed to the Youth Room. Months with a 5th week we do not meet.

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** - every Sunday, **9:45AM-10:45AM**. Classes for children **3 and up!**

## **COMMUNITY LIFE**

### **WOMEN OF NATIVITY**

All women members of Nativity Lutheran Church are automatically members of W.O.N. and are welcome to participate in all sponsored activities of W.O.N.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The next **WON Board Meeting - Tuesday, November 12, 2019**. We will be finalizing the Christmas Luncheon plans and begin planning the Annual Meeting luncheon and other January-March activities. All women of Nativity may attend and give advice or volunteer, leaders of groups vote. We could use some new ideas!



**PAINTING CLASS - Wednesday, October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2019 - 10AM-12PM.** 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.

**SARAH CIRCLE - Thursday, October 24th - 10:00AM and 6:00PM.** We will meet the 4th Thursday of every month, which will consist of a morning and evening session. Prayer Shawl brochures are available in the Narthex. Our Prayer Shawls are a tactile way of saying a prayer for someone in need. A BIG THANK YOU to those who have made donations to our ministry, and especially to the ladies who make the time to knit/crochet them. If you have any questions about this ministry, please call Peg Sanders at 352-382-1781.

**CARDS R US - Wednesday, October 2 & 9- 12:30PM-3PM.**

Cards R Us will meet the first and second Wednesday's in October, on the 2nd and the 9th. We'll make cards from 12:30PM - 3:00PM in Al Lien Hall. Be sure to shop our fun and spooky Halloween cards on the kiosks. Your donations for the cards will be given to Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Everyone is welcome to join our card-making group. It's an addictive craft, and we enjoy each other's company! Kids, unless you're saving the birthday and other cards you receive for keepsakes, please donate them in the Cards R Us bin in the Administration Building hallway. For more information about this ministry, please call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

**FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE** - Vivian Deon is hosting her 5th Annual Friendship Circle Pool Party on Friday, October 11, beginning at 12:00PM. Saturday, October 12, will be the rain date. Location is in The Heather, at The Bluff's clubhouse and pool on Nakoma Way. Please sign up in the narthex to bring a dish. Grilled sandwiches will be provided. Vivian says to wear a swimsuit! If anyone other than a Friendship Circle member would like to attend, contact Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918 for information.

**MARY JOY CIRCLE - Thursday, October 10, 2019-12:30PM** Our monthly Bible study continues on Thursday, October 10, 2019, at 12:30PM in Al Lien Hall. All women of Nativity are invited to join us for fellowship and bible study (led by Cam Martin). We look forward to welcoming you. For more information, please contact Evelyn Lawlor at 352-835-7784.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST - Tuesday, October 15, 2019 - 8:30AM.**

Please 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.

**DAYS FOR GIRLS - next meeting will be October 17 at 9:00AM.** 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 (Women of Nativity) have been able to participate in this life changing mission. Please consider joining us. For more information, contact Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.

## **CRAFTY LADIES - Fridays, 9:00AM - 11:00AM.**

We are a group of approximately 17 women, who meet every Friday morning at Nativity from 9:00AM until 12:00 noon. These dedicated ladies, iron, cut squares, pin and sew the quilts together, and tie a knot in every square. Please come and join us. Questions? Call Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.

## **PATTER FROM PATTI**

I want to take this opportunity to thank our Nativity family for all of your kindness during my health issues. I can't tell you how much it means to me. I really appreciate our committee and Tim for stepping up when needed. Here is what we have so far.

**OCTOBER 19th ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL, 5:00PM.** We have a few volunteers who have offered to give us a hand for this event. We can use some more. Friday, October 18th at 12:00PM to get equipment out of the attic and containers. Saturday afternoon to help set up outside and cook. Saturday night to help clean up and put things in their storage areas. **Tickets are now on sale.** \$5.00 for adults, kids \$1.00, Luther League no charge because they will be helping. The menu is: brats, hot dogs, potato salad, chips, baked beans, salad, apple pie alamode. After our dinner we will go out to sit around the campfire to enjoy music, marshmallows, and s'mores. Please bring a lawn chair and flashlight, Luther League will help set them up. We can handle 160 so buy your tickets now.

**NOVEMBER** event is still to be decided.

**DECEMBER 15th, Christmas brunch** after the 11:00AM Cantata service. More details in future newsletters.

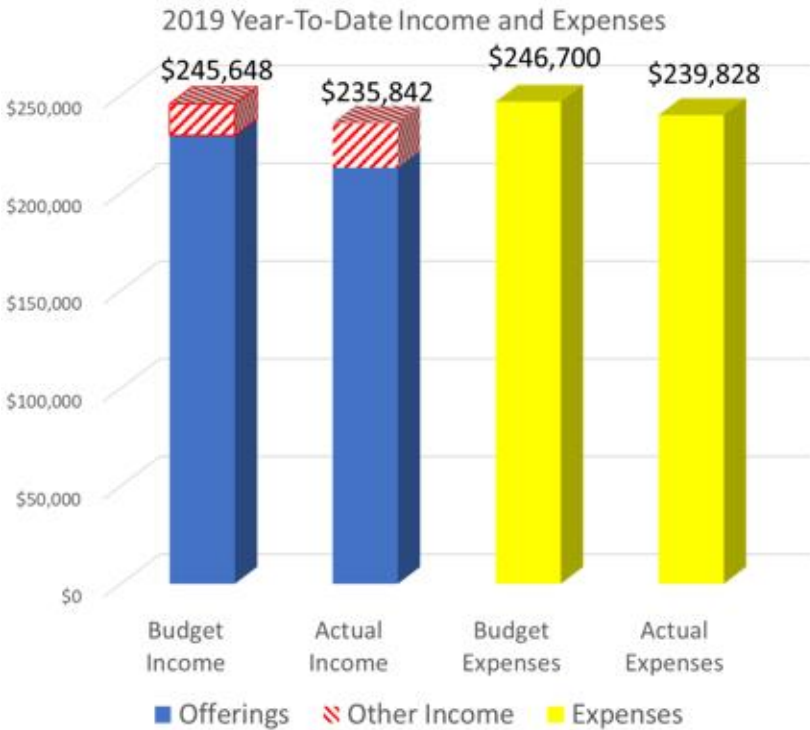
If you would like to see what the Fellowship Committee is all about, we meet on the second Tuesday at 10:30AM, give us a try.

-- *Patti Cotter, 352-797-9682.*

## FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

August figures reflect our expected decrease in attendance which equates to a decrease in contributions. But, with the Fall season brings the return of our 'snowbirds' which translates to higher attendance and giving. Welcome back, 'snowbirds'!!! The Fall season also signals the beginning of the budgeting process for next year. Nativity's Finance Committee is working on the first draft now. Your input is needed if you or your committee is requesting funding in 2020. Please email our treasurer, Ev Galli at [treasurer@nlcww.org](mailto:treasurer@nlcww.org) with your needs. As we look forward to next year, I am thankful for those that have responded to this year's call to increase your giving—it is making a difference. Your church and I thank you.

--Jane Henkel, 2019 Financial Secretary



**THE NATIVITY CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 AT 2:00PM, will be held at Glen Lakes Country Club (Rt 19, just a few miles north of the church).**

We are going to try something different this time. Instead of having couples together we are going to have random teams. This should be a lot of fun. Sign up sheets will be in the Narthex a few weeks prior to each event. Information can be obtained from Jim Runyan at 609-385-6679, or see him on Sundays in the choir. We encourage all to sign up as we have a lot of fun both with the golf & the dinners afterward. Skill in golf is not needed.



**COMMUNION MINISTRY HELP NEEDED.** 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 Pastor Giuseppe. A short training is all that is needed.

**COUNTERS NEEDED** — Every week 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 8:45AM once a month, and it takes about 1.5-2 hours to complete. For more information, please call Ernie Horeis at 352-666-7584.

**HELP WANTED. THE WOMEN OF NATIVITY** organization is looking for volunteers to represent Nativity at the Hernando County Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and Veteran Court graduations. These graduates have redeemed themselves by completing very stringent treatment programs. Their Treatment Teams have recommended that their legal cases be dropped. Women of Nativity participates in congratulating the graduates, gives them cards and Crafty Ladies' quilts, and provides cupcakes to make their graduation days a celebration. Graduations are held monthly at the Courthouse in Brooksville on a Thursday afternoon. Women, men and youth are all invited to participate in this important mission. If you would like to learn more about this program or would like to volunteer, please contact Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

**HELP WANTED WITH NLC WEBSITE.** The Communication team is looking for volunteers to help with maintaining the Nativity Lutheran Church website. The program we use for the website is very easy to use and work can be done from home. If you would like to learn more about this or would like to volunteer (we will train you), please contact Evelyn Galli at 516-909-3119 or at [evelyn.galli@nlcww.org](mailto:evelyn.galli@nlcww.org).

**AV OPERATORS NEEDED.** The audio operator makes sure the congregation can hear the spoken word and music. Please consider helping to take on this very important (yet simple) task. Men, women, boys and girls, if you are able to operate your TV remote control and you have good hearing, you are a candidate to join the Audio Operators Team. Only one service, one Sunday a month is all that is required. Stop by the audio console at the rear of the sanctuary or call Art Alt at 352-596-1585 for more info.

**GARDEN HELP WANTED!** We need your help to maintain the gardens at the entrance of the administration building. The garden serves as a bright spot for the church and as a welcome to all. Only light weeding, watering and cleaning of bird baths is needed. A sign up sheet is on the kiosk in the narthex. Any questions, contact Linda Wagner at 352-799-8577 or JoAnne Berg at 352-428-0156.

# *Special Events Coming in October*

## **Interfaith Voices Against Anti-Semitism**



**STOP THE HATRED!**



**Come Pray With Us**

**St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church**

1107 Commercial Way, Spring Hill Florida, 34606

**Come help the Healing. Stop the Hatred.**

**Be a Voice against Anti-Semitism!**

**Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6 PM**

*All Faiths welcome to join together to fight hatred*

### Speakers

**FEATURED SPEAKER: ROSLYN FRANKEN**, whose mother survived the horrors of the notorious Auschwitz Concentration Camp, and father survived the 1945 nuclear attack on Nagasaki, Japan, while in a work camp as a Prisoner of War. Noted author of "Meant to Be", a remarkable story about her parents.

**DR. HARRY RICHTER**, whose both parents immigrated to America after surviving Concentration Camp internment.

Prayers will be offered by Rabbi Tuviah of Temple Beth David and additional Clergy.

The hatred that prevails in America must stop! It is a new Dawn.

CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION: 352-251-8041



## **SAVE THE DATE**

### ***Special Events Coming in November***

#### **Sunday, November 3**

##### **All Saint's Day**

*Let the office know if you have had a loved one pass away during the last year (we have noted our members, so we are asking for non-members).*

#### **Sunday, November 10**

**Veterans will be honored**

#### **Tuesday, November 26**

**Thanksgiving Service at Holy Cross**

**7:00PM**

**Pastor Mattei will preach**

**Nativity choir will sing with Holy**

**Cross choir**



**SAVE THE DATE**

***Special Events Coming in December***

**Saturday, December 7**

**WON Christmas Luncheon**

**Sunday, December 8**

**Congregational Meeting at 9:45AM**

**Saturday, December 14**

**Angel Tree Party at 1:00PM**

**Sunday, December 15**

**Christmas Cantata**

**11:00AM Service**

**Tuesday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve Services**

**4:00PM and 10:00PM**

## REMINDERS

### OFFICE HOURS - Monday through Friday - 9AM-2PM

**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.

**NEWSLETTER:** If you would like to have something included in the **November** newsletter, please submit it to the office, or via email to [nativitylutheran63@gmail.com](mailto:nativitylutheran63@gmail.com), by **October 15**.

**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.

**NLC CALENDAR:** You can view it on the website, [www.nlcww.org](http://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. We have many ministries scheduling meetings including non-NLC groups. If you need to reserve a room, please make sure you submit your request to the office. Submissions can be made using a form that can be obtained in the office, or via email to [nativitylutheran63@gmail.com](mailto:nativitylutheran63@gmail.com) or via the form on the website. This will help resolve any conflicts that may arise.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

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

### **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.

**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.

**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 being with.

**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.

### **OUR 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 no 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, possessions, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions. (Adopted 9/7/07)

# October Birthdays

William Hockings	10/1
Barbara Crisanti	10/4
Darinka Lienau	10/8
Susan Taylor	10/8
David Salomaki	10/9
Jo Anne Boggus	10/13
John Healy	10/14
Charles Deeg II	10/15
Evelyn Lawlor	10/15
Germaine Major	10/15
Karen Chipko	10/18
Mark Hengesh	10/18
Sharon Schroeder	10/18
Karen Flom	10/24



Donna Colombo	10/26
Judith Seidl	10/26
Edward Lewis	10/28
Evelyn Galli	10/28
Penny Morman	10/29
Laura Nelson	10/30
Marilyn Bruden	10/31
Laura Fortner	10/31

# October Wedding Anniversaries

Mary & Robert McDowall	10/1
Joan & Douglas Beals Jr.	10/2
Terri & Michael Breida	10/5
Elaine & Randy Malone	10/6
Germaine & Claude Major	10/8
Janet & Michael Pellerito	10/09
June & Buddy Kristoferson	10/17
Darlene & James Christensen	10/19
Joan & Wayne Rasper	10/25
Marlene & Joseph Chinnici	10/26

