



Happenings at NLC

June 2020

Monthly Newsletter

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

Worship Services online: nlcww.org

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

June 7:



Trinity Sunday

June 21:



Upcoming Events

June 4 - The Food Pantry will be open
Thursdays only 9:30A-1P

Most church activities are canceled
until further notice. Please watch for
weekly announcements sent by the
church office.

Please visit our website at
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

Houses of Worship are Considered “Essential” Activities

By Dan Derenski, Council President

Let me assure you NLC is not closed: However, worship services have not resumed. This is primarily to ensure the congregation is safe from exposure to the Covid-19 virus. With this in mind the following efforts are underway:

- Validating the disinfectant, process, training and oversight documentation for large areas.
- The mapping of the sanctuary for maximum occupancy with social distancing calculations, using NLC demographics to determine seating has been completed. Marking the pews is the next step.
- Continuing to monitor and research guidelines as they apply to NLC.

The NLC policy regarding the Covid-19 virus is based on Federal, State, County and ELCA guidelines.

Phase 1 - NLC's office and the administration building are open and being used by groups of no more than 10 with social distancing. This does require reservations to be made through our administrative assistant, Linda. To protect Linda, unscheduled visits to the office building are discouraged.

Phase 2 - As I disclosed in my prior letter, this phase's guidelines call for social distancing with gatherings of no more than 50. Like phase 1 it requires making a reservation to reserve space. Occupancy for Winemiller Hall is 30, Al Lien is 15, the Library and Youth Room are 4 each.

Phase 3 - Vulnerable individuals should continue practicing social distancing and minimize exposure to gatherings. Some guidelines set a gathering limit of 100.

This is where it gets tricky regarding Phases 2 and 3. It is being reported that forty percent (40%) of the population infected with the virus are asymptomatic. This is problematic when eighty-eight percent (88%) of our congregation is 60 and older. As many have health issues, the question is: Should NLC provide our members with the security of social distancing in our sanctuary? If your answer is yes, this will require a reservation system with assigned seating be developed, staffed and implemented. This is only one of many items that need to be addressed. Other requirements are: Communicating the afore mentioned, signage, marking the church pews, disinfecting between services, etc. All of these items are being evaluated.

I want you to know that Council is reviewing all the relevant information and looking for alternatives to meet the health and spiritual needs of our congregation on an on going basis. Please contact Council with any questions, comments or suggestion at Council@nlcww.org or NLC, Attn: Council , 6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee Fl. 34613.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

The following meetings/gatherings are canceled for the month of June:

- Soul Seekers (will resume in September), Altar Guild, Midday Prayer, Choir, Handbell Choir, Bulletin Folders, Weekend Blessings, Stewardship Committee

PRAYER TIME WITH PASTOR MATTEI (ZOOM MEETING PLUS DIAL-IN)

Join Pastor Mattei for Prayer Time every Thursday in June at 10:30AM.

Join the Zoom Meeting at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82274908805>

Meeting ID: 822 7490 8805

If you want, you may call in every Thursday at 10:30 AM by dialing 1-929-205-6099, and when prompted for the meeting ID, enter in 82274908805#. During that time we sing, read a Bible passage and a Psalm, and then offer our prayers to God.

TRINITY SUNDAY – JUNE 7, 2020

Christians remember and honor the eternal God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We remember the Father as our Creator, the Son as our Savior and the Holy Spirit as our Comforter. While the word “trinity” does not appear in Scripture, it is taught in *Matthew 28:18-20* and *2 Corinthians 13:14* along with many other Bible passages. The concept of the Holy Trinity can never be completely understood. That is the mystery. Understanding this comes through the work of the Holy Spirit; therefore, it is appropriate that this mystery is celebrated the first Sunday after Pentecost, when the outpouring of the Holy Spirit first occurred. In order to better understand Trinity Sunday, you must first know Pentecost Sunday and why it is celebrated.

NLC’S SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - Listen to Nativity Lutheran's Sunday Worship Service every Sunday night at 6pm. Tune in to WZEU-FM 102.9 on your radio for a broadcast of this week's Sunday Service.

OUTREACH

MISSION OF THE MONTH - FOOD PANTRY

The Nativity Lutheran Church food pantry will be open on Thursdays only 9:30AM to 1:00PM to help those in need. Donations of non-perishable items are always needed and can be dropped off during church hours Monday-Friday 9a - 12n. For more information, please contact Bonnie Kuester at 352-596-8548.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Discipleship)

The following meetings/gatherings are canceled for the month of June:

- Youth Group Activities and Sunday School

Confirmation Class: June 5 & 12, 3:00PM via Zoom. See below and also the church calendar for details.

Join Zoom Meeting at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82242624132>

Meeting ID: 822 4262 4132

Or call in: +1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 822 4262 4132

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.

The following meetings/gatherings are canceled for the month of June:

- Painting Class, Friendship Circle, Cards R Us, Mary Joy Circle, Days for Girls, Sarah Circle, Fellowship Committee, Men's Breakfast

CRAFTY LADIES - FRIDAYS, 9:00AM - 11:00AM.

Crafty Ladies will resume meeting on Fridays, 9:00AM-11:00AM. Coffee hour will not take place during this time. CDC guidelines will be followed. Questions? Call Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

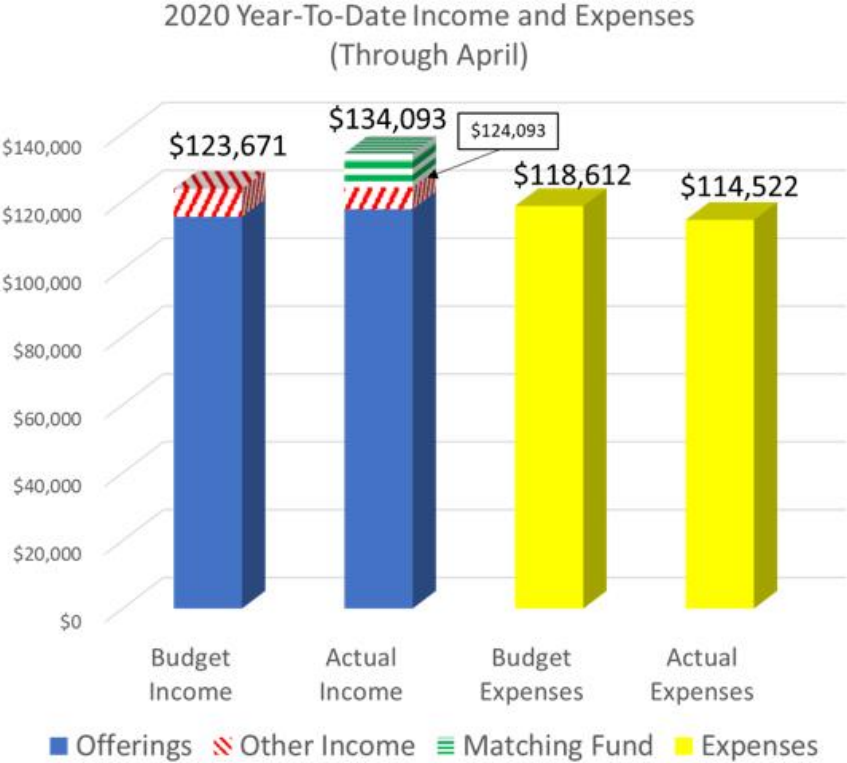
Giving: April's income figures are slightly above budget due to the Lenten holidays and Thrivent Funds distribution. Our members have continued un-interrupted giving via mail, on-line, or drop-off in the lockbox outside the gate.

Thank you for those who are continuing and keeping up with their pledges during this time.

Attendance Statistics: Our attendance is now measured by how many weekly online (YouTube) visitors we have to our service. These "unique views" as they are referred to generally match up with past year's in-person worshipping. We are required to keep this information by the Synod for use in future end-of-year reporting.

Expenses: Continue to be less than budgeted due to our closure because of COVID-19.

First Quarter plus April Giving Statements have been sent out. If you did not receive one via email or USPS, or have questions, feel free to email me at jetgal55@gmail.com, or phone me at (651) 402-1473. — Jane Henkel



Questions: jane.henkel@nlcww.org



Thank
you



Thank
you for
your donation!
The Griggs



BLESSINGS + LOVE
UPON ALL OF
YOU AT NATIVITY
LUTHERAN!!!
♥ Ali + Dad

Thank you
for your support.
We really appreciate it!
Love, The Petersons

Thank you for
your donation!
The Misenti
Family

Thank you for all
your support and care!
♥ Love,
The Bolton Family

♥ Chloe Thank you
for helping
us!





Reconnect With Nature
www.goldenrainbowranch.org

April 28, 2020

Dearest Friends at Nativity Lutheran,

THANK YOU A THOUSAND TIMES for your generous donation of \$428.00!! We were absolutely thrilled to receive your gift, and taken aback that people still are able to think about and support Golden Rainbow Ranch during this difficult time.

We are hoping to open to groups again by June.

This year, the money will go to buy a few shade umbrellas and misting fans to make it more comfortable for animals and people during the hot summer months!

Your continued support over the years has been an extreme blessing. You are making the world a better place every day by helping Golden Rainbow Ranch to care for rescued farm animals and people who need a dose of nature.

Please feel free to contact us if any of your members would like a free visit to the ranch to see where your generosity has been put to use. We can be most easily reached at goldenrainbowranch@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Allyn S. Baylor
Executive Director/ Ecotherapist
Golden Rainbow Ranch

Allyn S. Baylor
Executive Director

David G Baylor
Farm Manager

Christina Cancel
Publicity/
Administrative

Alexis Wong
Program Director

Board of Directors

David G Baylor
President

Craig M. Goldenfarb,
Esq.
Legal Advisor

Paul B. Goldenfarb, MD
Site Safety

Clifford Wilson
Animal Husbandry



14412 Snow Memorial Hwy. Brooksville, FL 34601
goldenrainbowranch@gmail.com 352-799-5425

May 18, 2020

Pastor
Nativity Lutheran Church
6363 Commercial Way
Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

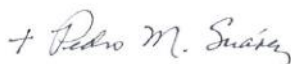
Dear friends in Christ,

With thanks and gratitude for your support of the mission and ministry we share as “church together for the sake of the world,” we report that we have received \$2,468.83 in Mission Support from February 1, 2020 through April, 30, 2020.

Deuteronomy 15:10 says: You shall give generously to the Lord, and your heart shall not be grieved when you give to Him because for this thing the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all your undertakings.

May God continue to bless your ministry. Please know that your congregation is specifically named in prayer when we gather for devotions at the Synod House on Wednesdays.

In God’s Peace,



The Rev. Pedro M. Suarez, Bishop
Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA



Florida-Bahamas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

3838 West Cypress Street • Tampa, Florida 33607
813.876.7660 • www.fbsynod.com • info@fbsynod.org

REMINDERS

Temporary Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - noon

ZOOM ACCOUNT. Nativity now has a Zoom account which can be used by any groups wanting to meet virtually. Even if someone in your group does not have a computer, they can still participate by dialing in (phone numbers are provided in the meeting details). If you wish to try a Zoom meeting, please contact the office (352-597-1456), and Linda will be more than happy to assist in setting it up.

LOCK BOX INSTALLED. For your convenience, we have installed a lock box outside Al Lien Hall door (next to the playground). This will make it more convenient if you wish to drop off your donation, or any mail for the church, in the secured lock box, which is checked daily.

DOOR BELL. Also for your convenience, so you don't have to go through the courtyard gates, a door bell has been installed on the Al Lien Hall door.

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 **July** newsletter, please submit it to the office by **June 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. 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 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)

June Birthdays

Michael Thelen	6/2
Gilbert Dietz	6/3
Kendall Wells	6/3
Lester Hanneman Jr.	6/5
Karen Crawford	6/6
Robert Oliver Jr.	6/6
Royale Pugh	6/6
Ruthie Ryan	6/6
Gail Zboray	6/8
Mary Sandvik	6/8
Buddy Kristoferson	6/9
Joe Ryan	6/10
Judith Foley	6/11
Jill Helgeson	6/11
June Kristoferson	6/12
Frank Stephan	6/14
Carl Lundh	6/14
Sharon Johnson	6/15



Richard Johnson	6/16
Pat Wilkins	6/17
Lynn Roa	6/18
Linda Borowski	6/19
Butch Corbidge	6/20
John Seidl	6/20
Madeline Johnson	6/22
Brian Wagner	6/27
Joanne Schaub	6/28
Doris Daley	6/29

June Wedding Anniversaries

Beverly & Glenn Houdek	6/1
Cheryl & Andreas Zybell	6/4
Carolyn & Jimmy Beasley	6/8
Lynda & Robert Bohn	6/8
Pat & Jim Runyan	6/8
Carole & Howard Schaefer	6/8
Meredith & Joshua Wozniak	6/8
Ruthie & Joe Ryan	6/9
Alice & Kendall Wells	6/9
Jill & Carlan Helgeson	6/11
Sharon & Philip Schroeder	6/11
Karin & James Glessner	6/12
Nancy & Douglas Siegert	6/12



Gloria & Richard Mraz	6/13
Peggy & Robert Sanders	6/14
Patti & Timothy Cotter	6/14
Deanna & Butch Corbidge	6/18
Norma & Arthur Diedrich	6/18
Marilyn & Philip Bruden	6/19
Connie & Roger Wendrzycki	6/19
Linda & Paul Rizzo	6/22
Cam & Elmer Martin	6/30