



Happenings at NLC

June 2021

Monthly Newsletter

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

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30am

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

June 6: Farewell & Godspeed celebration for Ruth Ann & Don Hoy, and Jayson Martin. Graduation Blessing for Jayson Martin.

June 13: Observation of *Juneteenth*

June 20:



Upcoming Events

June 10 - WON Luncheon

June 15 - Men's Breakfast

June 21: Council Meeting

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

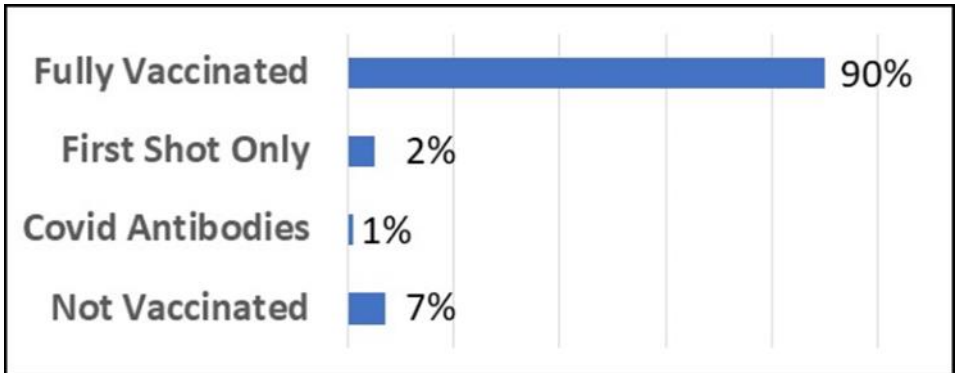


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www.nlcww.org

COVID SURVEY

A survey was conducted on both May 23 and May 30 to determine the extent to which our congregation has been vaccinated for Covid-19. The objective of this survey was to provide fact-based data to the members of our church family to allow them to feel more comfortable returning to in-person services.

The results of this survey show that the vast majority of the people that participated in this survey have been vaccinated for Covid-19. Indeed, of those who participated in this survey on May 23 and May 30, 93% were either fully vaccinated for Covid-19, had received their first Covid-19 vaccine, or had been told that they had Covid-19 antibodies. Just 7% have not yet been vaccinated. Those results are summarized below:



Participation in this survey was completely voluntary. Seventy-nine percent of the congregation in attendance on the days of the survey chose to participate in this survey.

We hope that the results of this survey will give further confidence to those members of our church family that still are concerned about the safety of in-person services. We encourage all who are comfortable to return to celebrate God's many blessings in-person at the services this summer.

If you have questions concerning this survey, please feel free to contact Scott Henkel at 612-868-9512.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP CHANGES

Based on CDC guidelines, the Congregation Council voted to modify in-person worship procedures. Thanks to the survey conducted by Scott Henkel over the past two weeks, we have some data that helps us each to assess our personal risk for in-person worship and the new procedures. Starting June 6, we will continue with prior changes and include the following:

- Communion cards will be available in the pews. Please fill one out and deposit your card in the offering basket. This will help us with attendance records and contact tracing.
- Those who have been fully vaccinated are able to attend without a mask if they are comfortable doing so. If you are not fully vaccinated, you are requested to still use a mask for your own protection.
- We encourage you maintain at least a 3 foot distance between people.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

OBSERVATION OF *JUNETEENTH*

Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It recalls how the states of Louisiana and Texas heard the news that President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Slavery continued in those two states for more than two years after the proclamation was signed because the word had yet to travel there. Texas and Louisiana finally got the good news on June 19, 1865. Former slaves broke out in spontaneous celebration. These were dangerous times. Even in the face of resistance and threat, the formerly enslaved Africans found ways to give voice to the wide range of thoughts and emotions at the announcement of the end of legalized slavery in the United States of America. The enslavement of Africans was an economic choice supported by the pseudo-scientific belief that Africans were less than human. **Nativity Lutheran Church will commemorate Juneteenth on June 13.**

ALTAR GUILD. Next scheduled meeting will be June 28 at 10:00AM.

We invite anyone (male or female) to attend one of our meetings to find out what we do and how we do it. We meet the fourth Monday of the month at 10:00AM. If you have any questions you would like answered before that please, call Suzanne Chelf at 352-684-7329.



PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS

Please, mark your calendar, plan to attend, and invite a friend to the following events:

- **June 23** - Healing and Wholeness service, 6:00 PM
- **July 14** - A Prayer service of Confession & Reconciliation, 6:00 PM
- **August 18** - A Prayer of Intercession for the country, 6:00 PM

For your planning, all services last between 30 and 45 minutes.

COLUMBARIUM NEWS: You may have noticed more name plates are being placed on our Columbarium. We have only 2 single niches left. The purchase price for each niche is \$500.00. Our Columbarium is maintained by a committee of three. Dennis Rogers (chair), Ernie Horeis, and Buddy Kristoferson. It is conveniently located for visitation by loved ones and friends to visit.



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.

SUNDAY, MAY 23

A special day for our three confirmands: Mark Major, Tyler Patterson, and Emma Wozniak. THANK YOU to all who came out to support them for their Affirmation of Baptism!





ALTAR FLOWERS. If you would like to purchase flowers for the altar in honor or memory of a loved one or event, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex on the kiosk. You can also call the office at 352-597-1456. Cost is \$25.00. For those people who have purchased bouquets, the Altar Guild will have them ready for you to pick up after the 9:30AM service. PLEASE, do not remove flowers from the altar. Members from the Altar Guild will remove them for you.

OUTREACH

MAY/JUNE MISSION OF THE MONTH - REZ HOUSE

Each year Nativity raises money to purchase “Back to School” shoes for the children of the migrant workers who use the services of Rez House or who worship there on Sunday. Make your check payable to Nativity Lutheran Church and indicate Rez House on the memo line.

Blessings to All, Elva Posewitz
for the Mission and Outreach Committee

NEEDING/GIVING RIDES

The physical status of a few of us has changed. Some people need a ride to the church. Please let us know if you need someone to pick you up for church activities. If anyone can offer rides, please call the office at 352-597-1456.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Discipleship)

CONFIRMATION CLASS continues with the study of the Hebrew Scriptures (the Old Testament). The class is still on-line due to Covid-19 every Sunday at 11:00AM via Zoom.

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.

ALL WOMEN OF NATIVITY SUMMER LUNCHEON. The first of our summer get-togethers will be Thursday, June 10, 12:00PM at Timber Pines Country Club. All Women of Nativity are invited. Please join us for lunch and fellowship. Call the church office, 352-597-1456, or Jean Drach, 352-684-1632, to reserve your spot.

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.





DAYS FOR GIRLS - Wednesday, June 2nd and 16th - 9:00AM - 12:00PM (Al Lien Hall). 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.

CARDS R US - Wednesday, June 2nd.

Join the Cards R Us group on June 2, 12:30 -3:00pm, in Winemiller Hall for a fun afternoon of card-making. We make greeting cards from your used, donated



greeting cards, placing them on kiosks in the narthex and in the Administration Bldg. hallway. Don't forget Dad; check out our Father's Day cards. They are offered for a suggested donation of 75 cents, with all proceeds given to Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Your helping out this ministry is very much appreciated. For information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

SARAH CIRCLE - is looking for help!

Crocheters and knitters, cash donations for yarn, or yarn itself. If you enjoy crocheting or knitting, and would like to help with Nativity's prayer shawl mission, join Sarah Circle on the third Thursday of the month in the Youth Room at 10:00AM. Or, if you prefer, the prayer shawls can be made in your home. For information, call Peggy Sanders at 352-382-1781.





FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - JUNE 12TH. On Saturday, June 12, Friendship Circle will enjoy tiki hut outdoor dining and live entertainment at Crump's Landing, 11210 W. Halls River Rd., Homosassa, FL 34448. This is about a half hour drive from Nativity. Plan to arrive at Crump's at 5:00pm. For further information or to carpool, please call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918. Otherwise, see you on the Halls River at 5:00 on June 12.



MEN'S BREAKFAST - Tuesday, June 15, 2021, 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 Al Wright at 352-597-7598.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Hey Nativity Family we are coming back. We are so excited to be able to start planning some new activities. Fellowship Committee usually meets the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30. We will have our first meeting on September 14th. At that time we will plan our September activity which will be as usual a Mystery Dinner. Although it is not planned yet we are looking at the last week in September. We will start taking reservations and deposits mid-August.

The committee wants to welcome anyone who would like to join us. Yes we do work, but we are truly like a family including our own little parties. We have things to accomplish for anyone's abilities. Now I will beg: We need some MEN, even if you don't wish to join the committee officially. For the big events we need help to pull them off, if you are willing to do that, please let me know.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS (*cont'd*)

As things proceed with the restrictions at the time, we will proceed on our events. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call me. I am so excited to be sending this out. Thanks again to all of you who held me in their prayers while I was going through my health issues.

Patti Cotter

352-797-9682

Dear Pastor Giuseppe and Dear Nativity Family,

Our Heartfelt thank you for keeping us in your thoughts, hearts, prayers, and in sending us cards in the loss of our Dear Grandson Michael. He will be missed by his Family and his Friends who called him Mclovin, because he always smiled. We would like to share a poem.

His Smile

Though his smile is gone forever
and his hand we cannot touch
we still have so many Memories
of the one we loved so much
his memory is now our keepsake
which with well never part
God has him in his keeping
We have him in our Heart ♥
Sadly missed but never
Forgotten.

May God bless you all with peace and joy.

Love Ernie and Lilo

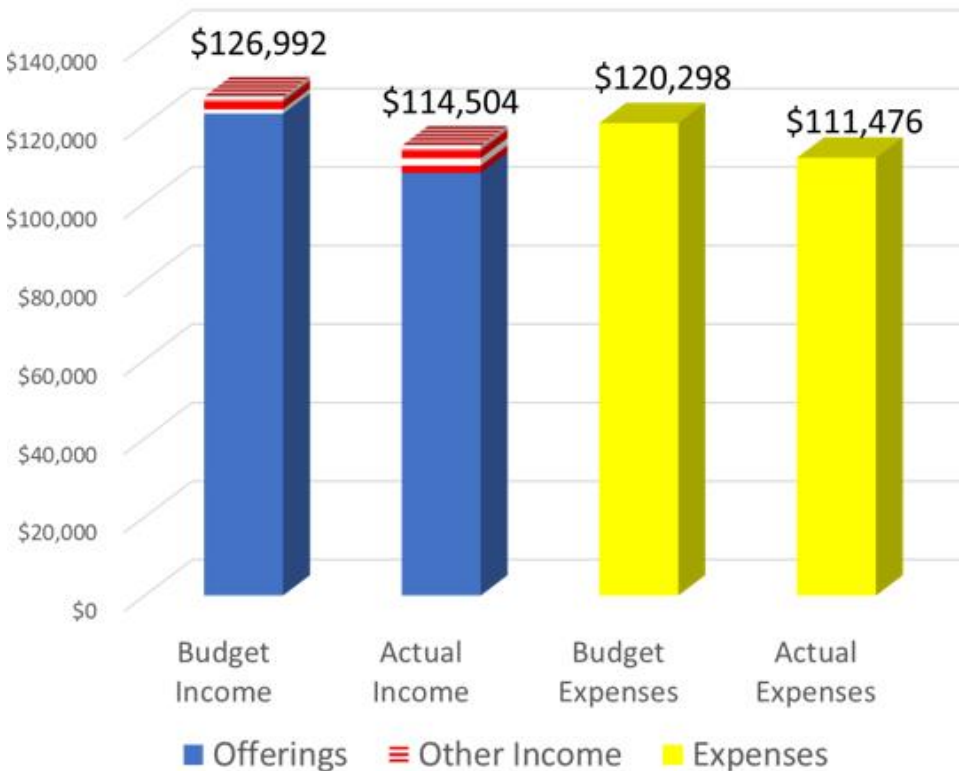
To My Church Family--

Thank you for all the get well cards, phone calls, visits and prayers during my recent health issue. I truly appreciate your thinking of me!!!

--Jane Henkel

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

2021 Year-To-Date Income and Expenses
(Through April)



Questions: jane.henkel@nlcww.org

REMINDERS

OFFICE HOURS - Monday through Friday - 9AM-12N

NEW INTERNET SERVICE - we now have Spectrum internet and phone service. If you would like to connect to our internet when on campus look for **Nativity 2**, the password is **guest1234**.

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 or via email to nativitylutheran63@gmail.com 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.

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.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED to Ruth Ann and Don Hoy and Jayson Martin. After June 22nd their new home address will be: 281 S. Court St. #2, Medina, OH 44256. Ruth Ann's email address is: ruthannahoy@gmail.com, and phone number remains the same 727-403-8867.

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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

Judith Alessio	6/2	June Kristoferson	6/12
Michael Thelen	6/2	Frank Stephan	6/14
Kendall Wells	6/3	Carl Lundh	6/14
Lester Hanneman Jr.	6/5	Sharon Johnson	6/15
Karen Crawford	6/6	Richard Johnson	6/16
Robert Oliver Jr.	6/6	Pat Wilkins	6/17
Royale Pugh	6/6	Lynn Roa	6/18
Ruthie Ryan	6/6	Linda Borowski	6/19
Gail Zboray	6/8	Butch Corbidge	6/20
Mary Sandvik	6/8	Madeline Johnson	6/22
Buddy Kristoferson	6/9	Brian Wagner	6/27
Joe Ryan	6/10	Joanne Schaub	6/28
Jill Helgeson	6/11	Doris Daley	6/29

June Wedding Anniversaries

Beverly & Glenn Houdek	6/1	Karin & James Glessner	6/12
Cheryl & Andreas Zybell	6/4	Nancy & Douglas Siegert	6/12
Lynda & Robert Bohn	6/8	Peggy & Robert Sanders	6/14
Pat & Jim Runyan	6/8	Patti & Timothy Cotter	6/14
Carole & Howard Schaefer	6/8	Marilyn & Philip Bruden	6/19
Meredith & Joshua Wozniak	6/8	Connie & Roger Wendrzycki	6/19
Ruthie & Joe Ryan	6/9	Linda & Paul Rizzo	6/22
Alice & Kendall Wells	6/9	Cam & Elmer Martin	6/30
Jill & Carlan Helgeson	6/11		
Sharon & Philip Schroeder	6/11		