



Happenings at NLC

October 2021

Monthly Newsletter

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

Worship Service: 9:30AM

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

TRINKETS AND TREASURES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22: 9:00AM - 2:00PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23: 9:00AM - 1:00PM



Upcoming Events

October 3 - World Communion Sunday
Global Mission Sunday
Congregational Meeting

October 31 - Reformation Sunday

November 7 - All Saint's Day

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

SPIRITUAL LIFE

SOUL SEEKERS 2021 – 2022

Where is God in your life? Where do you see God in your life?

Soul Seekers allows for time for you to connect with God. In this hectic world it can be hard to find that time. This group allows for that time to be nurtured. There are many resources and items used in this time. One of our main resources for this year will be the book *When the Heart Speaks Listen* by Lerita Coleman Brown. Her writing is profound, challenging, and also comforting. She shares her story openly. I (Michelle) have had the privilege and opportunity to work with and learn from Lerita on different occasions. The time together at Soul Seekers is a gift you give yourself. In this time, you get to share, explore, support, and encourage others on each person's faith journey.

As we continue to face challenges with COVID, out of an abundance of caution we will **not** meet in person September or October. We will revisit the safety of gathering in person each month.

So to that avail we will still offer three opportunities to gather and explore where God is in our lives.

Two of the opportunities will be zoom groups. The third will be a stand alone presentation.

Zoom replacing in person: This zoom group will meet the third Mondays of the month, 7pm to 8:30 pm.

Zoom: The second zoom opportunity will meet the second Saturday from 10am to 11:30 am. The first zoom session will be Saturday, October 9. The freedom of zoom is you can join from wherever you are.

Prerecorded: The third opportunity will be the ability to access a prerecorded presentation available on the first Friday of the month. It will be a 30 minute presentation.

A link with the zoom information will be available soon. For questions or more information please reach out to Michelle Mehan at 727-267-1047, shelltbfb@hotmail.com, or Kim Mehan at 727-207-0071 or kmehan57@gmail.com.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, is a celebration observed by several Christian denominations, taking place on the first Sunday of every October that promotes Christian unity and ecumenical cooperation. The tradition originated in the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in 1933, was adopted throughout the US Presbyterian Church in 1936, and subsequently spread to other denominations. In 1940 the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches) endorsed World Communion Sunday and began to promote it to Christian churches worldwide. (This text has been taken from www.cute-calendar.com).

On October 3rd, 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!

GLOBAL MISSION SUNDAY is celebrated throughout the ELCA.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3th (the first Sunday in October), has been set aside by Bishop Suarez to bring attention to Global Mission, our Companion Churches and seminary, and our partnership work together.

WHY? Projects and programs of the Synod's Global Mission Committee are not funded by the Florida Bahamas Synod budget. The Global Mission Committee seeks to raise awareness and money for supporting projects presented to us by our companion relationships.

WHO? The Global Mission Special Projects fund supports four Companion Churches – Cuba, Haiti, Guyana, Suriname, and the Union Theological College of the West Indies in Jamaica.

WHERE will the money raised go?

- To provide for bringing companion church representatives to Synod Assembly and the Lake Yale WELCA Conference.
- Help to cover the costs for the tri-annual Caribbean Consultation.
- Support the International Companion Program that brings a youth from a companion church to attend ELCA Youth Gatherings.

- Cover projects that do not fall under a specific companion church category or do not have a designated funding source.

Global Mission nurtures the ELCA's world engagement through the theology and practice of accompaniment by walking together with our global companions. Our work together has a multi-faceted approach to mission, from sending missionaries and personnel, to offering grants and scholarships designed to strengthen global church leadership and to support the ministries of companions.

We build on the capacity of our Lutheran companion churches in areas related to:

- Theological education
- Leadership development
- Sustainable development
- Evangelical witness
- Global advocacy
- Disaster response
- Global health

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. Walking together we achieve things on a scale and scope that we could never do otherwise.

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, OCTOBER 4TH -

An anonymous prayer mis-attributed to Francis reveals his love for peace and was prayed fervently during World War I & II. The prayer was written in French in 1912. The text follows:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring love.
Where there is offence, let me bring pardon.
Where there is discord, let me bring union.
Where there is error, let me bring truth.
Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.
Where there is despair, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.
Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.
O Master, let me not seek as much
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love,
for it is in giving that one receives,
it is in self-forgetting that one finds,
it is in pardoning that one is pardoned,

MEMBERS NEEDED: ALTAR GUILD – We invite anyone (male or female) to attend one of our meetings on the 4th Monday of each month at 10:00AM (to find out what we do and how we do it). Our next meeting is October 25. If you have any questions you would like answered before that please, call **Suzanne Chelf at 352-684-7329.**

REFORMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31 - Reformation Day, the anniversary of the day Martin Luther is said to have posted his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany (October 31, 1517), is later identified by Protestants as the beginning of the Reformation. The European Lutheran territorial churches first commemorated the Reformation on various days, among them the anniversary of Luther's birth (November 10), his death (February 18), and presentation of the Augsburg Confession (June 25). The centennial celebrations of 1617 focused attention on October 31. The liturgical color for the celebration is red.

New members of Nativity will be received during the 9:30AM worship service.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 - ALL SAINTS' 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). Votive candles will be placed in the Baptismal Font area for you to light at the beginning of the service if you so choose.

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.

WHITE PEW CARDS - Please take the time to fill out the white pew cards which are located on the back of the pews. Filling out the cards helps with our attendance records. Thank you!

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 — GLOBAL MISSIONS

The Global Mission Committee of the Florida-Bahamas Synod is involved with three Lutheran Churches abroad for mutual spiritual support and Christian fellowship. Our Companion Synods are the Eglise Luthérienne d'Haiti (ELH), the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Guyana (ELCG), and the Iglesia Evangelic Unita-Sinodo Luterano (IEU-SL) in Cuba.

The funds collected during this period will go toward the support of our Lutheran congregations in Haiti. Please use a green envelope, mark it for Global Missions, and make the check out to Nativity Lutheran Church.

FRESH NEWS FROM HAITI BY THE REV. KATHRYN CARROLL. FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD, GLOBAL MISSION TABLE CHAIR.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support for Haiti. The response to the (Haiti) Disaster Fund has been overwhelming and as I write this email (9/27/21), the amount collected is over \$25,000. \$20,000 has been forwarded to Pastor Livenson for emergency food supplies in the communities of Les Cayes, Baraderes, and Jeremie. It is a concrete expression of our partnership with ELH (Eglise Luthérienne D'Haiti)--we are doing God's work with our hands, as we bring hope and healing to our sisters and brothers in need. I'm also pleased to report that Pastor Livenson (ELH president) has provided documentation for the solar panels and \$10,000 food grant we provided this summer. I'm sure you have been reading about the issues at our borders; further, Pastor Livenson reports to me that the streets in Port Au Prince sustain violence. A Baptist deacon was shot just yesterday. The feelings of desperation are acute. May our prayers and support remind the ELH that they do not walk alone.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Katie

TROMPETER FUND GRANT FORMS AVAILABLE

Applications for 2022 grants from the David Trompeter and Dorothy Marie Trompeter Endowment Fund are now available in the church office. The applications must be returned to the church by December 31, 2021. Trompeter Fund grants are made to supplement “worthwhile ministries of Nativity Lutheran Church” and may not be used for ongoing budgeted programs or building programs of the church. The guideline rankings used for determining a grant include meeting human needs for food, water, and shelter; alleviating human trauma; religious education; and enriching the quality of life. Applications may be picked up in the church office or requested to be sent by mail by calling the office at 352-597-1456.

For questions about the grant process, please contact Carlan Helgeson of the Mission Endowment Committee at cdhelgeson@gmail.com.



Florida-Bahamas Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

September 15, 2021

Nativity Lutheran Church
6363 Commercial Way
Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Dear friends in Christ at Nativity Lutheran Church:

Thank you for the Mission Support of \$4,452.16 you have shared with Christ's wider Church between February 1 and July 31, 2021 through and as part of the Florida-Bahamas Synod. Your continued support, especially during these challenging times, is greatly appreciated. With your support we can continue our work as church together, so that we might joyfully serve our God in service, sacrifice, and celebration.

Mission Support helps us participate in the miracles of the Christ as we respond to the needs before us. It helps us train up leaders and pastors, feed people in need, respond to natural disasters, provide resources to congregations for their viability and growth, and the list goes on and on. Your Mission Support is vital to who we are and what we can do.

At our 2019 Treasurer's Gatherings, the majority preferred to receive quarterly statements rather than only one at the end of the year. We look to honor that request. We ask that you please make sure that our records are correct.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry. We pray faithfully for your congregation. Let us know how we might be of greater service to you.

In God's Peace,

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Discipleship)

FROM EDEN TO EGYPT: 6 STUDIES IN GENESIS -After such a long pandemic, are you ready to get back to learning and growing? Come join us for 6 Bible studies in Genesis led by Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgeson on **Wednesday evenings beginning at 7:00 p.m. on October 6th**. The studies will be held in Winemiller Hall and social distancing will be observed. No prior knowledge of the Bible is needed. A sign-up sheet is on the kiosk in the narthex. If you need a ride, please talk to Carlan or call him at 352-686-3367.

CONFIRMATION CLASS - Confirmation students are still meeting on zoom every Sunday through mid-November, then meeting in-person every other week. They are finishing up the Hebrew Scriptures.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL takes place at 10:45AM following the 9:30AM worship service. Children will be asked to wear a mask during class.

ORIENTATION CLASS - Several guest worshipers have inquired about membership to Nativity. There **will be an Orientation Class on October 10th** soon after the worship service (light lunch included). Please notify the church office if planning to attend at 352-597-1456.

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.

CARDS R US - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13- 12:30PM-3PM.



OCTOBER BOGO SALE - During the month of October, celebrate Fall with us by selecting two cards for the usual 75 cent

donation!!! Remember to shop for your Halloween 🎃 cards on our kiosks. All proceeds are given to Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help people with one-time emergencies. And you are invited to join us in this fun craft project, making greeting cards from your used, donated greeting cards. We will meet on Wednesday, October 13, 12:30PM-3PM in Winemiller Hall. For information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.



MARY JOY CIRCLE - Thursday, October 14, 2021 - 12:30PM Our bible study will take place on Thursday, October 14, 2021, 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 Jean Drach at 352-684-1632.



DAYS FOR GIRLS - next meeting will be October 14 & 28 at 9:00AM in 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) has been able to participate in this life changing mission. Please consider joining us. For more information, contact Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - OCTOBER 16 -

Friendship Circle will enjoy a beach sunset on Saturday, October 16, at Sam's on Hudson Beach, 6325 Clark St., Hudson 34667.



We will meet at Sam's at 4:30pm and have devotions, a meeting and dinner together. Live entertainment begins at 6:00pm, followed by sunset at 6:59pm. Sam's is a 22-minute drive from Nativity. Carpooling is encouraged. For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.



THE NATIVITY CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT - OCTOBER 17, 2021 - will be held at World Woods Golf Club

(17590 Ponce De Leon Blvd, Brooksville, FL 34614). Tee time is 2:00PM, but please be at the course by 1:30PM. 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. 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.

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. Our meeting in October is on the 21st. Or, if you prefer, the prayer shawls can be made in your home. For information, call Peggy Sanders at 352-382-1781.



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.



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15TH,
7:00PM**

The Fellowship Committee is excited to offer a night at the movies. We can accommodate 50 people safely. The cost will be \$1.00 and free for kids. This will include popcorn and drinks. The movie is IN THE HEIGHTS. Lin-Manuel the creator of Hamilton, the musical, offers a cinematic event where the streets are made of music and little dreams become big. Patti and Tim saw it and loved it. A sign-up sheet will be on the board in the narthex and will go up October 3rd. Because we are limited in our numbers if you are interested sign up early, and if you do and find out you can't attend please remove your names. Any questions you can call the Cotters at 352-797-9682.

**THE WEEKI WACHEE WINDS
COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND**

will present their first ever concert on Thursday evening, October 28, at 7:30 pm in the NLC Sanctuary. The band is made up of local musicians from high school through post retirement age and rehearses at NLC every Thursday evening in Winemiller Hall. They are directed by NLC member Mark Hengesh. The varied program will include marches, a John Williams medley, several Halloween inspired pieces, selections with Irish and Spanish influence, a veterans tribute and America the Beautiful, among others. The concert is free, but donations will be gladly and gratefully accepted. Attendees are requested to wear a mask.



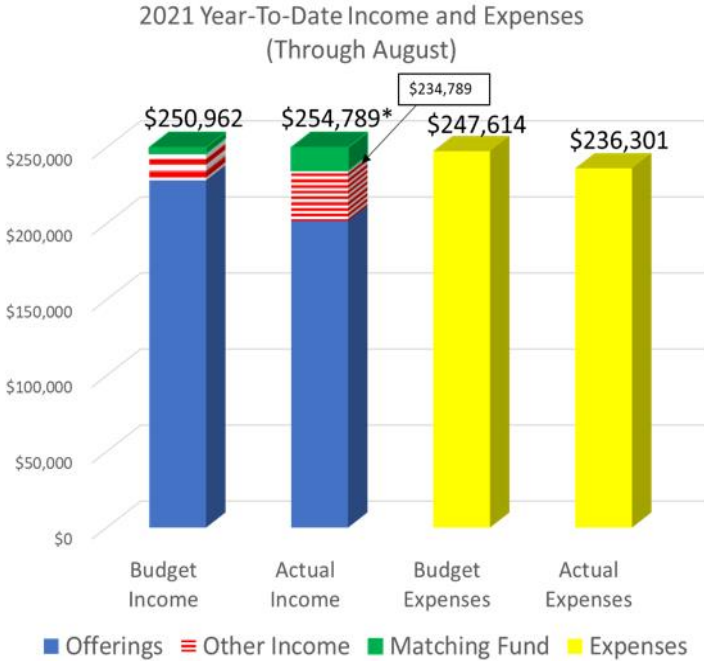


TRINKETS & TREASURES PART 3 - Friday, October 22 from 9AM-2PM and Saturday, October 23 from 9AM-1PM. Volunteers will be needed to help set up and price items Monday, October 18-Thursday, October 21 from 9AM-1PM. In addition we will need people to help on the sale days as well as to help break down. Any day(s)/time you can help would be greatly appreciated. Sign-up sheet is in the narthex or you can call Evelyn Galli at 352-556-2820 or 516-909-3119.

Donations accepted Mondays and Tuesdays from 9AM-12PM in Al Lien Hall. No donations accepted after October 12. Donated items accepted include dishes, glasses, kitchen items, holiday decorations, linens. We also need newspaper and plastic bags. If you can help get the bags together at home (we put a piece of yarn on the handle) please contact Evelyn at one of the numbers above. This is a great fundraising event for our church and appreciate your help in making it a huge success.

ALSO: If you have a folding table and/or card table that we could borrow for the T&T sale, please call Evelyn at one of the phone numbers above.

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY



* 2021 income includes \$20,000 Matching Fund. Actual without Matching Fund = \$234,789.

Questions: jane.henkel@nlcww.org

SAVE THE DATE

Special Events Coming in November

Sunday, November 7

All Saints' Day

Wednesday, November 10

36th Anniversary of Nativity Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 14

Veterans will be honored

Thursday, November 26

Have a blessed Thanksgiving. Give thanks for all your blessings this year and pray for those who struggle physically, spiritually, and socially. **A worship service is planned for Tuesday, November 23 at 7:00PM at Holy Cross.**

SAVE THE DATE

Special Events Coming in December

Sunday, December 5

Congregational Meeting
Weeki Wachee Winds Concert

Saturday, December 11

Angel Tree Party

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve Service at 7:00PM

REMINDER

Sunday, November 7



REMINDERS

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

INTERNET 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 **November** newsletter, please submit it to the office or via email to 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 who hasn't been able to attend church for some time, you may be the only link between them and Nativity. We would appreciate it if you kept 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. Should you or anyone you know 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.

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 be 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
Lyle Condo	10/14
John Healy	10/14
Evelyn Lawlor	10/15
Germaine Major	10/15
Karen Chipko	10/18
Mark Hengesh	10/18
Sharon Schroeder	10/18
Vita Condo	10/23



Judith Seidl	10/26
Nancy Trott	10/27
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
Terri & Michael Breida	10/5
Elaine & Randy Malone	10/6
Germaine & Claude Major	10/8
June & Buddy Kristoferson	10/17
Joan & Wayne Rasper	10/25

