



Happenings at NLC

April 2022

Monthly Newsletter

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

Worship Services 9:30am

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 10

Palm Sunday Service, 9:30AM

Thursday, April 14

Holy (Maundy) Thursday Service, 6:00PM

Friday, April 15

Individual prayer at the **Stations of the Cross**, come at
your leisure between **3:00-6:00PM**

Community **Tenebrae (Darkness) Service, 6:00PM**

Sunday, April 17

Easter Sunday Service, 9:30AM

Upcoming Events

April 3 - New Members Class

April 18 - Church Office is closed

April 18 - Council Meeting, 3:00p

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
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www.nlcww.org

SPIRITUAL LIFE

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Sunday, April 10

Palm Sunday Service, 9:30AM

Thursday, April 14

Holy (Maundy) Thursday Service, 6:00PM

Friday, April 15

Individual prayer at the **Stations of the Cross**, come at your leisure between **3:00-6:00 PM**

Community **Good Friday Tenebrae/Darkness Service, 6:00 PM**

Sunday, April 17

Easter Sunday Service, 9:30AM

PALM SUNDAY SERVICE - April 10, 9:30AM. Come join us as we enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love. Todd Holly will blow the shofar. After the service Kim and Michelle Mehan-Conklin will have a cross-making (from palms) workshop in Winemiller Hall.

GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER STATIONS - April 15, 3:00PM - 6:00PM. On Good Friday, April 15, 2022, Experiential Prayer Stations will be offered from 3:00-6:00PM (prior to the Tenebrae Service). We hope that you will come and see a different way of participating in Good Friday. If you have question, please call Michelle Mehan at 727-267-1047. Come for that prayer anytime between 3:00PM - 6:00PM, and pace yourself enjoying this time alone with the Lord.

Good Friday Tenebrae/Darkness Service: come at 6:00 PM for a communal time of prayer, meditation, music, and scripture reading.

WEEKLY PRAYER DAY - Nativity Lutheran Church is very excited to announce that we will be having prayer days in the sanctuary for 4 consecutive Tuesdays from 7 am to 7 pm **starting on Tuesday, April 12th.** Everyone, both in our congregation and the community, is welcome to spend quiet time in prayer with their Lord and Savior. Anyone can come anytime for as little or as long as they wish. There will be someone available the whole day for security and to provide a handout which will include prayer needs for the world and our community. Background music will be softly played, and there will be candles available if anyone wishes to light a candle during their prayer time. Let's come and "shout to the Lord" our thanks, praise, and petitions.

ALTAR GUILD members beautify the worship space and prepare the altar for our Sunday celebration. They also set up the sanctuary for the celebration of weddings and for funeral/memorial services. It is always a joy to make the necessary preparations to support everybody's worship experience. We invite anyone (male or female) to attend one of our meetings which is held on the 4th Monday 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 **Suzanne Chelf at 352-684-7329. Our next meeting is April 25, 2022, 10:00AM.**

COLUMBARIUM NEWS. There are 3 single niches available at a cost of \$450.00 each. Also, we are looking for 1-2 volunteers to join the Columbarium Committee. For more information, call Ernie Horeis at 352-666-7589.

ALTAR FLOWERS to start again after Easter. If you would like to purchase flowers for the altar in honor or memory of a loved one or event, please call the office at 352-597-1456. 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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Discipleship)

CONFIRMATION CLASS. Please, pray for our three confirmands, Ryan Alessio, Jesse Wright, and Ella Wozniak. They will celebrate their Affirmation of Baptism on Pentecost Day, June 5, during our worship service.

OUTREACH

APRIL MISSION OF THE MONTH - WORLD HUNGER -

Did you know that 811 million people around the globe are undernourished? ELCA World Hunger is our church ministry to end world hunger and poverty. ELCA walks alongside partners and companions in the United States and 60 other countries. So with your gift, ELCA can make a difference. Please help! Your box of offering envelopes includes an envelope for ELCA World Hunger. You can also use the green offering envelopes in the pews and simply make a notation for ELCA WORLD HUNGER. Remember your donations are always welcome. Thank you for your help.

May God's light shine through us. *Ellen Lapinski*

2022 TROMPETER FUND GRANTS AWARDED - The

Mission Endowment Committee is pleased to announce that it has awarded grants from the David and Dorothy Marie Trompeter Endowment Fund for 2022 in the amount of \$44,320.00. The following were recipients of this year's awards: Lighthouse for the Blind, NAMI, Crafty Ladies, Pastor's Discretionary Fund, Days for Girls, Nativity Food Pantry, Cards R Us, the Evangelism Committee, Homosassa Elementary School PTO, Friends of Weeki Wachee State Park, Resurrection House, Nativity Radio Ministry, and Crescent of Hernando. The details of the awards are listed on a sheet posted on the bulletin board in the Administrative Building. The Trompeter Endowment guidelines dictate that none of the fund or proceeds of the fund can be used for current expenses or building programs of the church. The Fund is completely separate from our church's budget.

NATIVITY THRIVENT ACTION TEAM RESULTS

APPROVED:

1. NLC Sarah Circle - material for prayer shawls
2. Girl Scouts - cookies for military troops
3. NLC Trinket & Treasures - food for volunteers
4. Autistic Children Class - clothing, snacks, other items
5. NLC Food Pantry - Easter hams
6. Weeki Wachee Winds - music, stands, expenses
7. NLC Bell Choir - music
8. NLC Food Pantry - hygiene items

AVAILABLE:

1. Lighthouse for the Blind - food/spots
2. N.A.M.I - educational booklet
3. Salvation Army - food
4. NLC Weekend Blessings - food
5. Golden Rainbow Ranch - crafts/animal food
6. Jericho Men - food
7. Rez House - school supplies
8. Holy Ground Shelter - food
9. Pastor Discretionary - gas/motel card

Please call Ernie Horeis if you would like to submit any of these projects - 352-666-7584.

COMPASSION SUNDAY - APRIL 24TH. The focus of the entire service will be to provide an awareness of some needs of the world's children. There will be a table in the narthex with information about child sponsorship. Material from Compassion International and Lutheran World Relief will be available.

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.

MARY JOY CIRCLE - At our last meeting we decided to cancel our circle meeting scheduled for April 14th, and encourage everyone to attend the WELCA Gulf Coast Conference meeting and luncheon to be held at Nativity Saturday, April 9th. It would be nice if we had a large contingent of happy faces to welcome the ladies from the other churches who will attend. Our Bible study on the Kingdom of God will conclude at our May meeting.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH AND 28TH - 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.

Mark your calendars for our dates in May. We are planning on meeting May 12th and 26th - 9:00AM -12:00PM. Any changes to these dates will be communicated in our weekly announcement sheet and next months newsletter.

Please consider joining us. For more information, contact Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.



Women ^{of the} **ELCA** 

**Nativity Lutheran Church
is pleased to host the
Spring Gathering of the
Gulf Coast Conference
of the WELCA**

***“Love is the Ministry
of Reconciliation”***

Saturday, April 9, 2022

Registration opens at 9:30am

Conference begins at 10:00am

Lunch following the conference

Cost is \$8.00

We hope you can join us!

For more information, please call
Ursula Schramek at 352-382-2946 or

Susan Lee at 586-405-3129.

Nativity Lutheran Church of Weeki Wachee
6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL
352-597-1456 • nlcww.org

CARDS R US CIRCLE will not be making cards in April. We'll be back on schedule in May. Remember to shop for your Easter cards on our kiosks, thereby contributing to Pastor's Discretionary Fund. We wish you an Easter season of Christ's peace, joy, and blessings. For more information about this Circle, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

SARAH CIRCLE - We knit prayer shawls to donate to newly baptized people, and to those just out of surgery. Crocheters and knitters, cash donations for yarn, or yarn itself. If you enjoy crocheting or knitting, please join Sarah Circle on the third Thursday of the month in the Youth Room at 10:00AM. **Our meeting is April 21st.** Or, if you prefer, the prayer shawls can be made in your home. For information, call the church office at 352-597-1456.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - APRIL 23. Members will share a potluck picnic at Hunter Springs Park in Crystal River on Saturday, April 23, 4:00pm. Park address is 104 NE 1st Ave., Crystal River 34429, about 37 minutes north of Nativity and 2 blocks west of U.S.19. Parking fee is \$1/hour or \$5/day; you will need a credit card and your vehicle tag number at the pay station. If anyone wants to carpool, please make your own arrangements. The park features easy access to a beautiful walk-in freshwater beach, a boardwalk from which manatees may be seen, and a kayak launch area. It won a 2019 Certificate of Excellence from TripAdvisor. If anyone other than a member of Friendship Circle would like to join us, please call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

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

Hard to believe we are heading towards the end of our season. We were so happy to be able to have Pasta/ Team Trivia Night, we couldn't even remember what our last dinner was. Everyone had a good time and loved Guy Peeters' sauce. Thanks to Pat Runyan for handling the trivia. I am so blessed to have the wonderful Fellowship team we have. Even when I was ill they would tell me just to sit down and tell them what to do, yes, even then I was bossy. Here is what we still have coming up:

MYSTERY DINNER, April 26th - start at Cotter's 4:00pm.

We are heading north to Citrus County so we will have appetizers at Cotters. When you make your deposit you will get a map to the house. This restaurant specializes in seafood, but I have seen the menu and it includes meat and poultry dishes. For those who have never attended one before, you will receive directions as you leave the house.

We will be taking deposits of \$10.00 per person and you will get it returned when you get to the house. We will start selling them on April 3rd. We can only accept 45 people, so don't procrastinate. Last time everyone was having such a good time we were so noisy. I loved seeing it.

MEMORIAL COOK OUT, Sunday May 29th following the service.

We will be eating inside. Here is what we will offer: bratwurst or hot dogs, sauerkraut, potato salad, coleslaw, watermelon. Tickets will be \$5.00. When you purchase your ticket you will let us know if you prefer bratwurst or hot dog. We will start selling them on May 15th.

Tim has been working on baseball games here is his info:

Fellowship is organizing two baseball games to attend a farm team baseball game and a major league ballgame.

FARM TEAM BASEBALL GAME - MAY 12

TD Ballpark in Dunedin Florida: Dunedin Blue Jays (Toronto Blue Jays) vs. Tampa Tarpons (New York Yankees) Farm Teams, Thursday, May 12, 2022, 6:30 pm. Group Tickets (15+ people) \$6 per ticket. Ticket signup and sales are Sunday, April 3, 10, and 24.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL GAME - JUNE 25

Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg Florida: **Faith Day at the Rays.** Tampa Bay Rays vs. Pittsburgh Pirates, Saturday, June 25, 2022 @ 1:10 pm. Tickets - \$35 per ticket. Ticket signup and sales are May 22, May 29, and June 5. Checks payable to Nativity Lutheran Fellowship. More info to follow, if you have questions check with Tim Cotter

That is it for the season, if you have any questions give me a call at 352-797-9682. ~Patti Cotter

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - AN INVITATION TO ALL... to an informal gathering for your input and your vision for our church. When: Sunday, April 24th, after worship service in Winemiller Hall.

SUMMER BELLS ARE RINGING

Do you want to have some fun and learn how to play the bells?

Do you want to rejoin the bell choir?

Sign up for our summer bell workshop!!!

RSVP to Todd or Janet at 352-503-6215.

When:

The following Mondays:

June 20th & 27th @ 5:00 P.M

July 11th & 18th @ 5:00 P.M.

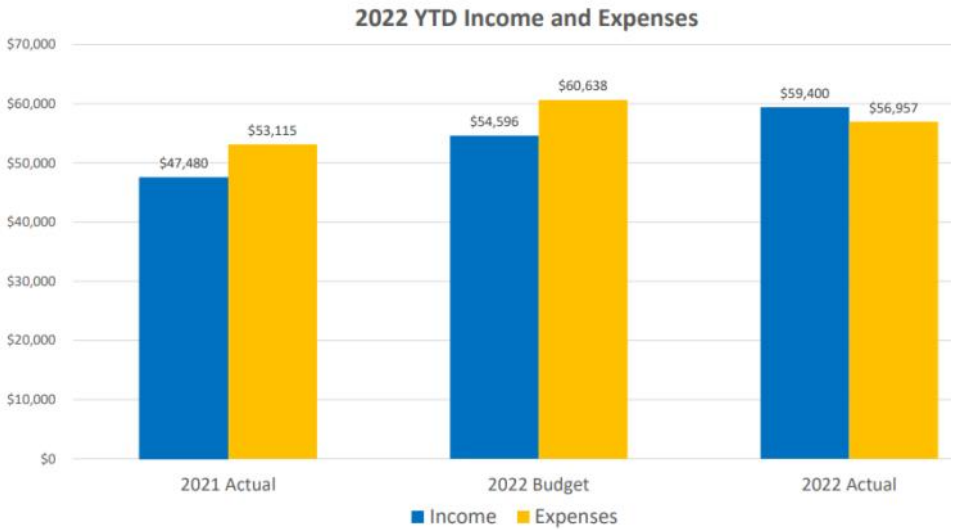
August 1st & 8th @ 5:00 P.M.

Where: Nativity Lutheran Church in the Sanctuary

** Following our last rehearsal, we would like to have a showcase FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. After the showcase everyone can celebrate IN THE Social Hall with a nice dessert table.

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

FEBRUARY 2022



If you have any questions, please contact Pat Squires at patsquires63@gmail.com.

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 **May** newsletter, please submit it to the office or via email to nativitylutheran63@gmail.com by **April 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.

April Birthdays

Frank Defrancesco	04/02
Carlan Helgeson	04/03
Sue Margagliotti	04/03
Ashley Hoy	04/04
Howard Schaefer	04/05
JoAnne Stuck	04/06
Sylvia Scebba	04/07
Olivia Haaland	04/08
Allen Yttri	04/12
Catherine Hill	04/13
Susan Lee	04/13
Douglas Johnson	04/14
Michael Davis	04/15
Linda Hengesh	04/16
Martin Salzbach	04/18
Karin German	04/18
Linda Rizzo	04/19
Giacomo Mattei	04/20
James Stuck	04/21
Charlotte Downing	04/24
Gary Hopkins	04/24



Joshua Wozniak	04/26
Joanne Morrow	04/28
Jack Chase	04/29
Renee Desilets	04/30
James Nelson	04/30
Meredith Wozniak	04/30

April Wedding Anniversaries

Richard and Sandra Sander	04/02
Bob and Judith Brayman	04/05
George and Lonora Smith	04/18
Philip and Cheryl Wolfe	04/25
Gregory and Charlene Massey	04/27
Michael and Linda Thelen	04/30



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)