



Happenings at NLC

May 2022

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

Sunday, May 1 - Rachel's Day

Sunday, May 8



**Sunday, June 5 - Day of Pentecost,
and Confirmands' Affirmation of
Baptism**



Upcoming Events

May 8 - New Members Received

May 29 - Memorial Day Cookout after service

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



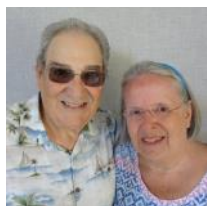
6363 Commercial Way
Weeki Wachee, FL 34613
352-597-1456 • www.nlcww.org

SPIRITUAL LIFE

RACHEL'S DAY – May 1, 2022

Rosie Rosten will talk about the history of Rachel's Day, which is observed by Women of the ELCA annually on the first Sunday in May. The day takes its name from *Jeremiah 31:15–17*, in which the matriarch Rachel grieves for her children. It is a time set aside to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of violence and fear that plague our nation.

NEW MEMBERS will be received on Sunday, May 8th.
Please welcome our new members on this special day.



Eugene & Agnes Burkart



Walter & Nancy Johnson



Robert Rios



David Vanhorn

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE GRADUATES. If you have a child or grandchild graduating this year, please call the office (352-597-1456) with their name and school they are graduating from, even if they are out of state. We will have a special blessing for them on Sunday, May 29.

PENTECOST—Sunday, June 5, 2022. Pentecost is a Christian holiday on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. The Sanctuary will be decorated in red and we ask all to wear **RED** that day. During the same service Ryan Alessio, Jesse Wright, and Ella Wozniak, will be confirmed through the Affirmation of Baptism ritual.

ALTAR FLOWERS. 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 (cost is \$25.00). 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.

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 May 23, 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.

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. THANK YOU.

Blessings to All, Linda Russo

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 - Cards R Us will be making upcycled cards out of your used, donated greeting cards on Wednesday, May 11 and 18, 12:30-3:00pm, in Winemiller Hall. Shop for your Mother's Day cards on our kiosks. One hundred percent of the donations for our cards are turned over to Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help those in financial distress. Anyone is invited to join us for this fun craft. We'll show you how we do it. For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - THURSDAY, MAY 12TH AND 26TH - 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.

MARY JOY CIRCLE, MAY 12TH, 12:30PM. Our May 12th bible study will be on the Kingdom of God. This will be our last meeting until the fall. Watch for announcements on a summer bible study.

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.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - MAY 21st. Friendship Circle will be traveling to the Clearwater Main Branch Library to view renowned photographer Clyde Butcher's stunning black and white Everglades free exhibit. Library address is 100 N. Osceola Ave., Clearwater 33755. From there, we will drive a few miles to Frenchy's Rockaway Grille, 7 Rockaway St., on Clearwater Beach 33767 to share devotions, fellowship, a meal and a view of God's beautiful white sand beach. Most parking at Frenchy's is in the adjacent small park via pay stations. To carpool, meet at Nativity at 10:30am. The library opens at noon. For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

PATTER FROM PATTI

It has been quite a season for us all, we normally end in April but we have added one more:

Memorial Weekend Cookout May 29th after the service.

We will start selling tickets on Sunday May 15th. \$5.00. We will serve the following: Brats or Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, and Watermelon. When you sign in you will let us know if you want Brats or Hot Dog. Our Fellowship Guys will be cooking during the service in the courtyard, so you will smell that yummy smell while in the sanctuary.

Faith Day at the Rays. Tampa Bay Rays vs. Pittsburg Pirates, at Tropicana Field, St. Petersburg Florida. Saturday June 25, 2022 at 1:10 pm. \$35 per ticket, sign up and sales are on May 22, May 29 and June 5. Checks payable to Nativity Lutheran Fellowship.

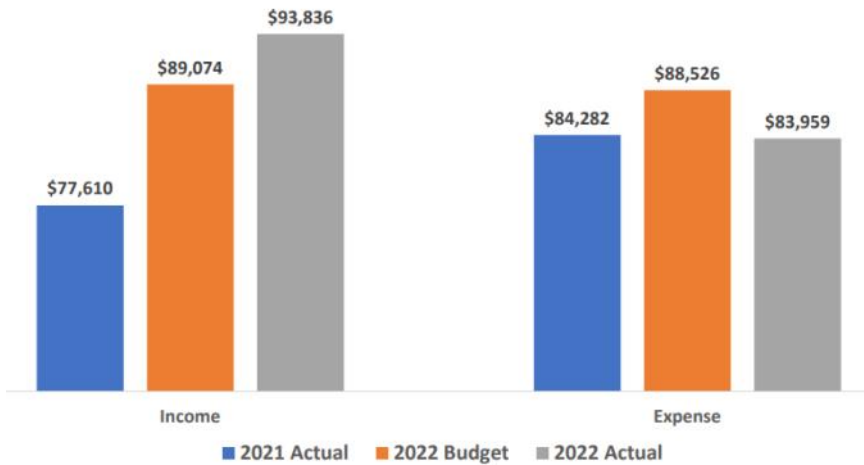
I want to take the opportunity to thank all of you who have participated in our events this season, and a special thank you to our Fellowship Committee. I feel so blessed to have them all. If you have any questions, give me a call.

Patti Cotter, 352-797-9682

TRINKETS & TREASURES - We would like to thank everyone who helped make the Trinkets & Treasures sale a huge success. We made a total of \$4,400. In addition, we donated items from the sale to Jericho Road Ministries. Without your participation, the event would not have been possible. Our next sale is scheduled for October 14 and 15. At this time, we will be collecting jewelry and that can be left in the office during normal office hours. We will keep you posted on when other donations (and help) will be needed. To be part of a wonderful church family is a blessing and one that we cherish. Again our heartfelt thanks - Evelyn Galli and Janet Jones.

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

2022 YTD Income and Expenses



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 @ 5:00PM: June 20th & 27th; July 11th & 18th; and August 1st & 8th.

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.

Nativity Communication Team Call for Volunteers

The Communication Team has identified two areas of concentration this year to focus on.

Updating a brochure for
Nativity
&

Updating the Nativity
Website.

We invite any interested members who are willing to share their ideas/ talents to contact

Linda Hengesh



Contact
Linda Hengesh
at
legato.linda@yahoo.com
or call
630-244-5104

" It Takes A Village"

Grief Matters Community Forums Spring 2022

Presented by the Morton Plant Mease Spiritual Care Department

This online educational series addresses topics that are central to the experience of grief. Each one-hour presentation provides resources for those who are grieving and for those who want to be of support. This program is free and open to all, thanks to a grant from Morton Plant Mease Health Care Foundation.

Join us for an online educational series addressing topics central to the experience of grief.

The same program is offered with daytime and evening options. These programs are offered virtually using Microsoft Teams. Technical support and orientation provided. You can attend a single event or the series.

■ Understanding Grief: An Introduction

This forum will focus on types of grief, the grief timeline and the uniquely personal ways individuals experience grief.

Tuesday, May 10, 6:30–7:30pm

Wednesday, May 11, 12–1pm

■ Love and Loss: Sorting Through the Feelings

Grief is a whole range of emotions that have physical, emotional and spiritual consequences. Learn helpful strategies to cope with your grief.

Tuesday, May 24, 6:30–7:30pm

Wednesday, May 25, 12–1pm

■ What Helps? Finding and Providing Support

Learn from those who have experienced grief about what might be helpful and what might not be.

Tuesday, June 7, 6:30–7:30pm

Wednesday, June 8, 12–1pm

■ The Ripple Effect: Exploring Secondary Losses

Recognizing that many losses can follow a death including the loss of hopes, dreams, relationships, finances and more, is an important part of the grieving process.

Tuesday, June 21, 6:30–7:30pm

Wednesday, June 22, 12–1pm

This program is free and open to all.

Register in advance: mpmbereavement@baycare.org
or (727) 462-7995



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

May Birthdays

Murial Bishop	5/1
Luetta Hassis	5/2
June Heinecke	5/2
Roselind Rosten	5/4
Marie Hamilton	5/6
Gary Kopitzke	5/7
Kim Mehan-Conklin	5/7
Cherylann Schneider	5/7
Eleanor Hockings	5/8
Lonora Smith	5/9
Irma Haig	5/11
Joan Marceau	5/12
Laura Marasco	5/13
Linda Wagner	5/13
Joyce Colombo	5/14
Sandie Bates	5/15
Russ Colombo	5/16
Judith Nelson	5/18
Ian Rogers	5/19
Sara Zybell	5/19
Lynda Bohn	5/21
Susan Nordstrom	5/21
John Capell	5/22
Richard Sander	5/22



Ginger Wielk	5/22
Larry Fortner	5/23
Joan Lombardo	5/24
Phyllis Olsson	5/24
Ursula Schramek	5/24
Winona Binns	5/27
Chestley Merritt	5/27
Alice Seeholzer	5/28
Monika Brennan	5/29
Connie Chase	5/29
Linda Russo	5/29
Ruth Edwards	5/30
Julie Hopkins	5/30
Irene Froehlich	5/31

May Wedading Anniversaries

William and Renee Desilets	5/3
Jack and Connie Chase	5/7
Bob and Cherylann Schneider	5/17
Doug and Sharon Johnson	5/19
Paul and Karen Chipko	5/22
Dan and Lyn Derenski	5/24
Larry and Laura Fortner	5/26



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)