



Happenings at NLC

December 2022

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

**Congregational Meeting for
Budget & Elections** **12/11 @ 10:45AM**

Christmas Cantata **12/18 @ 9:30AM**

Healing Service with Anointing **12/21 @ 11:00AM**

Christmas Eve Service **12/24 @ 7:00PM**

Christmas Day Service **12/25 @ 10:00AM**

Mark Your Calendar - Upcoming Events for January 2023

**January 1 - Service of Lessons &
 Carols**

**January 22 - Annual Congregational
 Meeting**

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

While most of the world rushes to celebrate Christmas, the church observes the season of Advent, four weeks of preparation and anticipation beginning Sunday, November 27. We are waiting not only for our celebration of Christ's birth but also for his second coming. Join us each Sunday in Advent as we will light a candle on the Advent wreath, and journey toward the joy of the Christmas season.

NLC'S SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - Access our website, nlcww.org, to live stream (or play on demand) our service beginning at 9:25am Sunday mornings. ALSO, Sunday night at 6pm, tune in to WZEU-FM 102.9 on your radio for a rebroadcast of our previous weeks' Sunday Service. If you are Interested in sponsoring one of the services broadcast on WZEU in memory or honor of someone, cost is \$25 and place your donation in a green envelope and mark it WZEU and place in the offering basket.

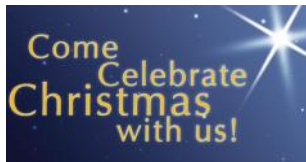
CHRISTMAS CANTATA AND BRUNCH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH - Nativity Choir will be offering a beautiful Christmas Cantata at the 9:30am service. After the service the Fellowship Committee will be hosting our Christmas Brunch. It is complimentary so all you have to do is make sure you sign up in the narthex. Look for the big poster and the sign up sheet will be there. If you have any questions about anything, please give me a call at 352-797-9682. ~PATTI COTTER

“HEALING SERVICE WITH ANOINTING”

Wednesday, December 21, 11:00AM

The fast approaching holiday season may be a source of anxiety and/or grief for many of us. This Christmas, the physical absence of a loved one, whether through death, a broken relationship, distance, or military deployment, might not be conducive to a joyful celebration but might evoke feelings of emptiness, sadness, and loneliness. Come for a moment of healing prayer and blessing through anointing on Wednesday, December 21, at 11:00AM.

POINSETTIA ORDERS - Poinsettia plants will decorate our sanctuary. If you have been with us in the past, you know how beautiful that looks. You may contribute to the purchase of one or more plants and help decorate the sanctuary. We will have **50** large 3-stem potted plants at **\$8.00 each**, and **6** huge white potted plants at **\$20.00 each**. All plants can be taken after the Christmas Day service. Envelopes are available in the narthex or church office. The plants are on a first come first served basis. You can also call the office (352-597-1456) to reserve your poinsettia.



CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - December 24, 2022, at 7:00PM. Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Savior of the World.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE - December 25, 2022, at 10:00AM.

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS - JANUARY 1, 2023, 9:30AM. A service of scripture readings and songs that trace the arc of redemption from the Fall to the birth of Christ.

ALTAR GUILD – Altar Guild will not meet in December. Meetings will resume in January and will be on the 4th Monday of the month 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. If you have any questions you would like answered before that, please call Suzanne Chelf at 352-684-7329.

OUTREACH

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH - ANGEL TREE. This mission is to restore those affected by crime and incarceration. They believe that all are created in God's image and that no life is beyond God's reach.

We at Nativity will receive names of 35 children from our community whose parent(s) are incarcerated. On December 3rd we will host a Christmas Party for the children and their caregivers. Each child will receive a gift from their mom or dad with a personal note.

If you would like to donate to this mission, please take an envelope from the tree in the narthex. Thank you for your continued support. Please call me to join the fun.

Linda Russo
352-596-0673 or 352-428-7764

ANGEL TREE PARTY - Saturday, December 3, 2022, 3PM - 6PM in Winemiller Hall. We will be hosting a Christmas party for children whose parents may be incarcerated or who are deemed economically disadvantaged. Last year the participation we received from the Nativity family was wonderful. We hope you can join us.

The Angel Tree is located in the narthex. If you would like to make a donation to this ministry, please take an envelope off the tree and place it in the offering plate.

TROMPETER FUND GRANT FORMS AVAILABLE -

Applications for 2023 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, 2022. 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.

THRIVENT MEMBERS

THRIVENT MEMBERS: There is still time to submit your
Live Generous Action Team Projects
Before 12/31/2022 to help our Church
and Community outreach programs.
Here are some project ideas

1. N.L.C. Cards are Us - Pastor's Discretionary Fund
2. N.L.C. Food Pantry - Food for Animals
3. Lighthouse for the Blind - Food for a Meal
4. Day Care Center - Cloths,Suitcase,Diapers,Etc.
5. Jericho Men Shelter - Clothing,Food,Hygiene items
6. N.A.M.I. - Educational Booklets

If you need help submitting your project contact
Ernie Horeis 352-600-5906
Tim Cotter 352-797-9682

If you want to become

- a) *Associate Member \$ 19.95 a year and you can submit one project and receive Seed Money (credit card) for \$ 250.00 for your project.
- b) Benefit Member \$.00 a year you can submit two projects a year
Totaling \$ 500.00
*Applications 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 - DECEMBER 7th at 9:45AM. All women of Nativity Lutheran Church are invited to the Mary Joy Circle meeting on December 7th at 9:45AM. We will use the devotions from the December Gather magazine. Mae Haines will lead the devotions. We will also be making Advent Wreaths. For questions about this ministry you can call Jean Drach at 352-428-0834.

CARDS R US - DECEMBER 5th and 14th, 12:30PM - 3:00PM. Check out the Cards R Us kiosks in the narthex and the larger kiosk in the admin bldg. hallway. You'll find some nice Christmas cards, as well as birthday, get well, thank you, thinking of you, etc. Your donations for our cards are given to Pastor's Discretionary Fund, to help those in financial crises. If you would like to get creative and help with this mission, please join us as we craft greeting cards from your donated, used greeting cards. December card-making dates are 12:30-3:00pm on Monday, the 5th, and Wednesday, the 14th. For information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

W.O.N. Christmas Luncheon - Saturday, December 10, 2022 - 11:30AM. All women of Nativity are invited to the annual Christmas luncheon. Tickets are \$8.00 each and can be purchased in the narthex before or after service today. For more information or to make a reservation, please contact Jean Drach at 352-684-1632 or Evelyn Galli at 516-909-3119.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - December meetings will be Wednesday, December 8 and 22, 2022 at 9:00AM. 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.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - DECEMBER 8. Friendship Circle will gather for a celebration of Christmas at Ruby Tuesday's, 13095 Cortez Blvd. 34613 on Thursday, December 8, at 4:30pm. We'll have devotions, a meeting, and take up a collection for our annual Christmas gift of goats for people affiliated with the Lutheran Church of Haiti. Following dinner, we will attend a Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons tribute band (Let's Hang On) at the Brookridge Community Clubhouse, 8150 Hampton St., Brooksville, 34613. Cost for the concert is \$20; to reserve a seat with Friendship Circle, please contact Susan Nordstrom by Sunday, November 27. Tickets will be purchased in advance. Walk-ins are welcome.

SARAH CIRCLE - Do you know someone who is undergoing a medical procedure, in need of comfort after a loss, desiring to increase their time of prayer or meditation, preparing for marriage, in the midst of an illness, recovering from surgery, or otherwise in need of prayer? ***Prayer shawls are always available. All you need to do is ask!***

When someone receives a prayer shawl, Sarah Circle (the women who sponsor the ministry and make the shawls) also prays for that recipient. We ask you to share only as you are comfortable why you want to give the recipient the gift of prayer so that we may include these requests in our prayers.

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 November is on the 17th. 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.

Ladies will not meet during the month of December, and will resume again in January 2023.

THE WEEKI WACHEE WINDS COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND will present their Holiday Concert on Sunday afternoon, **December 4 at 2:00PM in the NLC Sanctuary**. A variety of Christmas music will be played. The concert is free. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS ARE DUE. All ministry teams and committees are asked to turn in an annual report to the church office by December 1. Any questions, please call the church office at 352-597-1456.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11. Our annual Congregational Meeting for Budget and Elections will be held after Sunday service. The purpose is to propose and adopt a budget and a program of ministry for the following fiscal year, to hold annual elections, and transact any other business that may be necessary. Copies of the budget will be available in the narthex starting November 27th. You may also stop by the office (or call 352-597-1456) to request a copy.

A CHANCE FOR ADVENTURE FOR OUR NATIVITY FAMILY. Do you enjoy seeing new places but don't like traveling alone? Why not consider taking a cruise to Alaska with some of our Nativity Lutheran family? The Royal Caribbean Ovation of the Seas leaves from and returns to Seattle June 30 to July 7, 2023. Among the stops on this Glacial cruise are Sitka, Skagway, Juneau, and Victoria (British Columbia). Prices for the cruise start at \$799 (per person with double occupancy). For more information, you may view the brochure on the kiosk in the narthex or contact Carlan Helgeson (352-686-3367) if you are interested.

PATTER FROM PATTI

The Fellowship Committee is excited to have a lot happening, here it is:

PIZZA MOVIE NIGHT Thursday December 1st, 5:30PM.

Come for a fun night to get in the Christmas spirit by watching DOLLY PARTON ON THE CHRISTMAS SQUARE on the big screen. We will be watching it after we have Pizza and during popcorn and beverages. If you want to join us please sign up on the kiosk in the narthex so we know how much pizza to order. We will be asking for \$2.00 per person you can give when you arrive.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING Tuesday, December 6th, 10:00AM. We will be decorating the 12 foot Christmas tree in Winemiller so that it will put the spirit in the hall. After we are finished we will have refreshments. This will add the season for WON luncheon and the Cantata Brunch.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA AND BRUNCH Sunday December 18th, 9:30AM Service. We are so happy that the choir is able to offer a Cantata again, it has been a few years. After the service the Fellowship Committee is offering a complimentary brunch. We beg you if you want to attend to please sign up on the list that will be next to the big poster in the narthex starting on December 4th.

We are planning a MYSTERY DINNER in January, see the details in the next Newsletter.

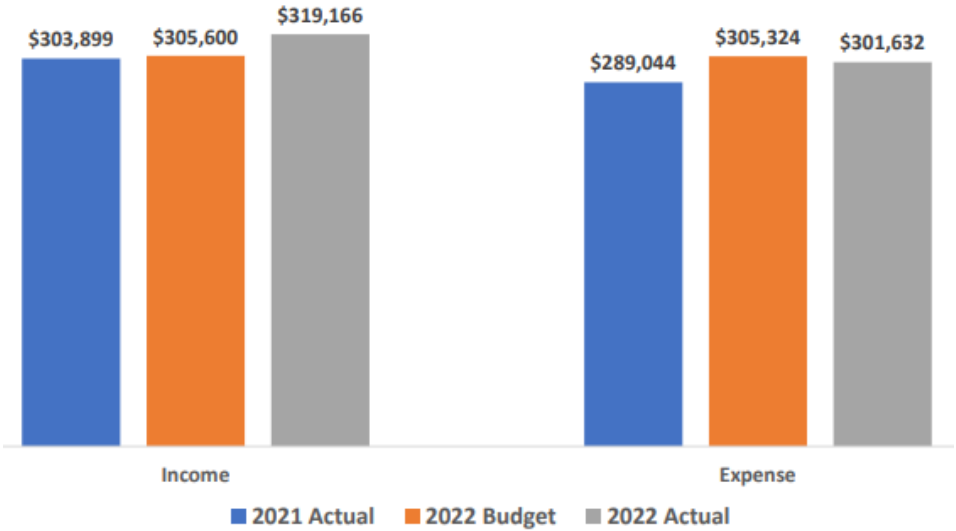
March 18th HAMARAMA. We are pleased to offer this event again. If you have not attended in the past it is a ham dinner followed by a talent show. So if you would like to be part of the talent, just talk to Donna Olsen or me.

We wish you all a marvelous Christmas, and it is so good to feel we can get back to the lives we led a few years ago. If you have any questions, please call me at 352-797-9682

~Patti Cotter

**FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY
REPORT OCTOBER 2022**

2022 YTD Income and Expenses



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

REMINDERS

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

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS ARE DUE: All ministry teams and committees are asked to turn in an annual report as soon as possible. Any questions, please call the church office at 352-597-1456.

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

December Birthdays

Terri Breida	12/2
Will Schantl	12/3
Lyn Derenski	12/4
Natalie Goff	12/4
Johnny Mullins	12/5
Dan Derenski	12/8
Scott Henkel	12/8
Crystal Burchardt	12/9
Gayle Howland	12/9
Ann Kopp	12/9
Nancy Siegert	12/9
James Nelson	12/10
Suzanne Chelf	12/12
Brenda Mullins	12/15



Alfred Korndorfer	12/16
Desiree Mattei	12/16
Janet DeVico	12/21
Karen Napoli	12/23
Scott LaFranca	12/24

December Wedding Anniversaries

Sylvia & Angelo Scebba	12/03
Royale & Tom Pugh	12/06
Candice & William Kochounian	12/08
Joan & Gil Herr	12/21
JoAnne & Zell Boggus	12/22
Janet & Michael Jones	12/26
Libby & John Capell	12/27
Nelly & Ernest Velez	12/31



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)