



Happenings at NLC

May 2023

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 7 - Rachel's Day

Sunday, May 14



Sunday, May 21 - Graduates' Blessing

Sunday, May 28 - Day of Pentecost



Upcoming Events

May 7 - Weeki Wachee Winds Spring Concert

May 28 - 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 7, 2023 - Rachel's Day, a project of the Women of the ELCA observed 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. We will be taking a special "noisy" offering, so bring your loose change (bills will be accepted, too). Our "noisy" offering will be given to this year's Florida-Bahamas Synodical Assembly's service project, the Harbor House of Central Florida, a 110-bed emergency domestic violence shelter.

PENTECOST—Sunday, May 28, 2023. 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.

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 22, 2023, 10:00AM.**

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.

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
352-596-0673

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 - Shop for your Mother's Day and other greeting cards on our kiosks in the narthex and administration bldg. hallway. Mother's Day is May 14. We give all proceeds from the cards you select to Pastor's Discretionary Fund, to help those facing financial difficulties. You may donate your used greeting cards in the Admin Bldg. hallway bin. Also, we'd love for you to join us in this mission by making cards from donated, used cards on Wednesday, May 3 and 10, 12:30-3:00pm in Winemiller Hall. For info, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - THURSDAY, MAY 11TH AND 25TH - 9:00AM - 12:00PM (LIBRARY). 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 3RD, 9:45AM. This will be our last meeting until the fall. Watch for announcements for any summer bible studies.

CRAFTY LADIES - Fridays, 9:00AM - 11:00AM. We are a group of approximately 12 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. The fellowship time with other volunteers is enriching and the feeling of satisfaction for creating something with your hands that benefits another person is a blessing in itself. Please come and join us. Questions? Call Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - MAY 5. Friendship Circle will celebrate Cinco de Mayo with Margarita Romo and the families involved in her many programs at the Resurrection (Rez) House (ELCA) in Dade City. This will be, of course, on Friday, May 5. Rez House's address is 37124 Lock Street, Dade City, FL 33523. This is a 42-minute drive from Nativity (33.8 miles). To carpool, meet at Nativity at 3:15pm. Rez House' Cinco de Mayo celebration begins at 4:00pm with a Health Fair. Games for the children begin at 5:30pm. Our teddy bears will be prizes for the children, expected to number at least 100. The party includes a DJ. In addition to our plush animals, we will take food for their Food Bank. Margarita suggests beans, rice, canned tomatoes, turmeric, cumin, flour, oil. They are very much in need of food. Genuine Mexican food will be for sale. If Mexican food isn't your thing, you may want to go as a group to Steph's Southern Soul Restaurant, 14519 5th St., Dade City 33523. For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE GRADUATES. If you have a family member 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 21. Out of state graduates will be able to follow the service on line at www.nlcww.org.

TRINKETS & TREASURES - We would like to thank everyone who helped make the Trinkets & Treasures sale a huge success. We made a total of \$5,100. 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 20 and 21 and we will keep you posted on when we will be having a meeting for that sale as well as when donations will be accepted. At this time, the only items we will collect will be jewelry and that can be left in the office during normal office hours. 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.



THE WEEKI WACHEE WINDS - COMMUNITY CONCERT - SUNDAY, MAY 7 AT 2PM. Under the direction of NLC member Mark Hengesh, Weeki Wachee Winds will be presenting their **Spring Concert** at Nativity in the sanctuary. The concert is free. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

PATTER FROM PATTI

We are now entering the last month of our Fellowship season. We will start again in September when we always have a Mystery Dinner. Here is what is still planned:

Thursday, May 4th. Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park. If we have at least 10 people which we already have signed up the fee is \$8.58 instead of \$13.00. You can either meet at church to leave by 9:15a or meet at the lobby on Hwy 19 at 10:00a. We must all be together to get the fee. You can charge it if you like. We want to leave then because the manatee discussion is at 11:00a. They have opened a new restaurant in the main building and we can stay for lunch. I will be in the narthex to give info and so you can see the menu then sign up. So far all who have signed up also want the luncheon. A great way to spend the day.

Sunday, May 28th Memorial Cook-off. After the service we will celebrate Memorial Day with a cook-off. Here is what we will have: hot dogs, or brats, potato salad, cole slaw, fruit ice for dessert. We will start selling tickets Sunday, May 7th. \$5.00 per person.

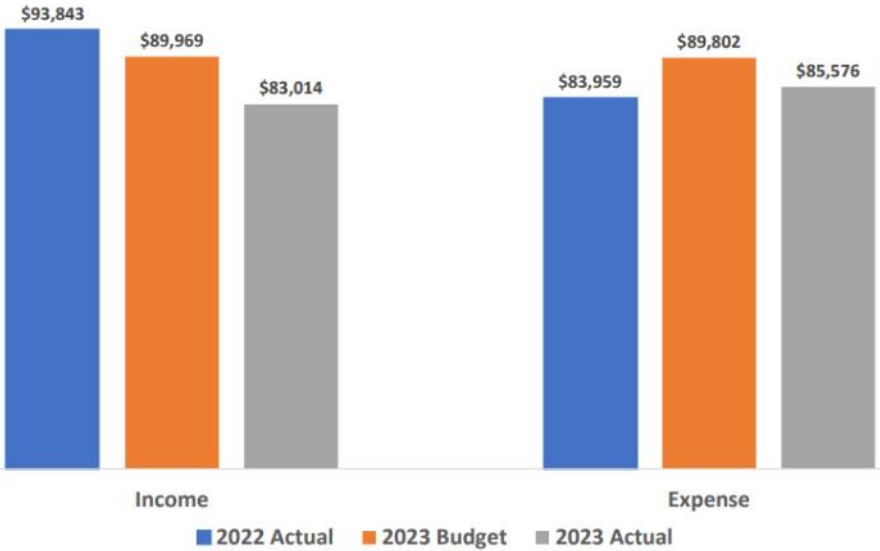
We want to thank all of you who have participated in our events this past season. It is so wonderful to be able to do things again, our two biggest ones were the Christmas Brunch and Hamarama. I want to let my committee know how grateful I am to all of them. They step up and do it all. Thank you. Please all of you have a wonderful and safe summer. We are heading north to see our family too. See ya in the fall.

Patti Cotter

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

MARCH 2023

2023 YTD Income and Expenses



The Lord has blessed us with a generous congregation. Because of all of us lives are being changed and many hear the good news of resurrection.

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

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
Noel Prettyman	5/2
Roselind Rosten	5/4
Marie Hamilton	5/6
Gary Kopitzke	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
Mark Major	5/17
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
Joan Lombardo	5/24
Phyllis Olsson	5/24
Winona Binns	5/27
Chestley Merritt	5/27
Alice Seeholzer	5/28
Monika Brennan	5/29
Connie Chase	5/29
Carol Fisher	5/29
Linda Russo	5/29
Ruth Edwards	5/30
Julie Hopkins	5/30
Irene Froehlich	5/31

May Wedding Anniversaries

Jack and Connie Chase	5/7
Bob and Cherylann Schneider	5/17
Tom and Carol Anderson	5/18
Doug and Sharon Johnson	5/19
Paul and Karen Chipko	5/22
Dan and Lyn Derenski	5/24



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...

Working as a supportive family of faith to extend God's gracious welcome through worship, community service, and spiritual growth opportunities.

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)