



Happenings at NLC

September 2023

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



Upcoming Events

September 4 - Labor Day (*office closed*)

October 1 - World Communion Day

October 5 - Blessing of Animals

October 20&21 - Trinkets & Treasures Sale

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

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY COMING. A new Bible Study opportunity is coming on Wednesday evenings beginning September 20th from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. in Winemiller Hall. The four-session study is entitled “Honest Conversations About Sexuality and the Bible” and will be taught by the Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgeson. The study’s sessions include (1) “The Place of Women in the Scriptures,” (2) “Sexuality and Spirituality in the Scriptures,” (3) “Same-sex Scripture References in the Biblical Context,” and (4) “Sexual Issues in the Church Today.” Everyone is welcome to learn and grow together.

ALTAR GUILD. Altar Guild will not be meeting in **September.** Our next meeting will be October 23rd. Members of this ministry 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 (except September), 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.

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR IS SEEKING NEW MEMBERS. Come and join us on Wednesday's at 6:00pm to try it out. No singing experience necessary, just a willing heart to sing a joyful noise. We sing every other Sunday and we are now practicing our Christmas Cantata. Please join us! Singing is good for the body and soul. Any questions, call Donna Olsen at 352-220-2318.

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 per vase. For those people who have purchased bouquets, the Altar Guild will have them ready for you to pick up after the 9:30AM service.

NLC'S SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - The service is streamed live or you can watch a recording on our website (www.nlcww.org). 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.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME AND LIVING LUTHERAN - Starting September 10th copies of the October/November/December issue of *Christ in Our Home* and September/October issue of *Living Lutheran* will be available in the narthex and administration building. A small donation would be appreciated to offset the costs of the devotionals. You can use a green pew card and mark it "devotionals". If you have any questions, or want to make sure copies are still available, please call the office at 352-597-1456.

PRAYER LIST & PRAYER CHAIN POSSIBILITIES

“We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers constantly...” --I Thessalonians 1:2

God desires that we enter into conversation with God through prayer. Prayer is “two-way” communication with God. At times, we speak and God listens; while other times, God speaks and we listen. The following information is shared with you as a means of helping you to develop your congregation’s ministry of prayer:

Prayer List

If you wish to include someone on the **Prayer List** at worship, please contact the church office at 352-597-1456 or nativitylutheran63@gmail.com.

1. Please make sure that you have the permission of the person you wish to include in the prayers before placing them on the Prayer List.
2. When you contact the church office, please give:
 - a) The correct spelling of the person’s name;
 - b) The nature of the prayers request (i.e., illness, hospitalization, surgery, recovery, etc.); and
 - c) Your contact information (name and phone number and/or e-mail address).
3. Normally, a person will be included on the Prayer List for four weeks. Please contact the church office to remove their name, or if you wish to have the person continue on the Prayer List for longer than four weeks. Thank you.

Prayer Chain

The **Prayer Chain** is for more immediate prayer concerns. You may contact the church office at 352-597-1456 or Pastor Giuseppe Mattei at 978-956-4304 or guiseppe4peach@gmail.com.

1. Please make sure that you have the permission of the person you wish to include on the Prayer Chain before placing them on the Prayer Chain.
2. Please include the following information:
 - a) The name of the person for whom prayers are requested;
 - b) The nature of the prayers request (i.e., illness, hospitalization, surgery, recovery, etc.); and
 - c) Your name and contact information, so that updates on the person can be obtained.

While it is important to remember others in our prayers, we wish to honor and respect people's privacy, which is why we request their permission to be included on the Prayer List or Prayer Chain.

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." --Philippians 4:6

Do You Have These Essential Documents?

You have no doubt heard about the importance of having a will. Did you know there are other essential documents that will help you prepare for the future and guide your loved ones?

THE BIG 4

1. **Last will and testament and/or trust:** Outlines who gets your assets after your lifetime and appoints a guardian for any minor children or dependents you may have.
2. **Power of attorney for finances:** Names a person who will have the legal right to handle financial matters on your behalf if you are unable to do so.
3. **Power of attorney for health care (aka health care proxy):** Names one or more individuals you trust to make medical decisions on your behalf if you cannot.
4. **Living will/advance directive:** Documents your wishes regarding life-sustaining care.

THE NEXT STEP: KEEP THEM UPDATED

Once you create these documents, be sure they stay current.

1. **Review your will.** Has your life changed since you signed yours? Review your will or living trust documents at least every few years or when you experience a major life event (change in marital status, birth or adoption of a child, etc.).

2. **Update beneficiary designations.** When you establish life insurance or retirement plans, you are asked to name beneficiaries of these accounts. Review these regularly to ensure your assets will pass to the appropriate loved ones.

Need to update your beneficiaries? Request a change of beneficiary form from your administrator by downloading a form from your provider's website. You may be able to make your change online.

3. **Meet with an advisor.** See an estate planning attorney, financial advisor and other trusted experts periodically to ensure you are on track for the next stage of life. They can help you draft and update your essential documents to ensure your plans still accomplish what you want them to.

UPCOMING OCTOBER EVENTS

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY - OCTOBER 1. This 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). A procession of national flags kicks off the celebration of World Communion Sunday. Volunteers will be needed to carry the flags in the procession. Please, let the office know if you are willing.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS - OCTOBER 5, at 11:00AM at the Humane Society of the Nature Coast 7200 Mobley Road, Brooksville, FL.

11:00AM - Blessing of the Animals

11:30AM - Light Refreshments provided by Winn-Dixie

12PM - 4PM - Adopt-A-Pet

Bring your pet for a blessing. Invite your friends.

Pick up a flyer in the narthex which has a list of donations that are needed. A box will be in the narthex to drop off your donations or you can bring them to the church office.

OUTREACH

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 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.

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.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - our next meeting will be TUESDAY, September 5th and 19th 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.

CRAFTY LADIES - Fridays, 9:00AM - 12:00PM. We are a group of approximately 12 women, who meet every Friday morning at Nativity from 9:00AM until 12:00PM. 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.

MARY JOY BIBLE STUDY - SEPTEMBER 6th. All Women of Nativity are invited to join our bible study on September 6 at 9:45AM. The bible study will be on prayer, and the making of prayer beads led by Deacon Charlotte Downing. For more information, please call Jean Drach at 352-684-1632.

CARDS R US, SEPTEMBER 6th and 13th, 12:30PM-3:00PM. Check out the Cards R Us kiosks in the narthex, and the larger one in the administration bldg. hallway. You'll find cards for anniversaries, birthdays, thinking of you, sympathy, get well, congratulations, etc. Your donations for our cards are given to Pastor's Discretionary Fund, to help those in need of a bus ticket, fuel for their vehicle to get to a job interview, to pay an electric bill, etc. If you enjoy being creative, please join us in this mission project. For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE, SEPTEMBER 23 - Friendship Circle will drive to Tampa to see the play "Denying Gravity" on fall prevention, Saturday, September 23, at the Carrollwood Cultural Center, 4537 Lowell Rd., Tampa 33618. SAGES, a community theater company, is a local not-for-profit that presents "Plays with Purpose" featuring senior actors in meaningful leading roles. The play, which begins at 2:00pm, runs 60 minutes, followed by a 30-minute Q&A. Admission is free (donations appreciated). Afterwards, we'll drive 4 minutes to the Italian restaurant, Noble Crust, 11618 N. Dale Mabry Hwy., Tampa 33618. To carpool, meet at Nativity at 12:30PM. If anyone other than a Friendship Circle member wishes to join us, please contact Susan Nordstrom ASAP at 352-428-1918, so tickets can be secured.

SARAH CIRCLE - SEPTEMBER 21st @ 10:00AM. 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. 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. Or, if you prefer, the prayer shawls can be made in your home. For information, call Peggy Sanders at 352-382-1781.

PATTER FROM PATTI

September is here and our season starts again. Our Fellowship Committee offers the following events:

Tuesday, September 26th- Mystery Dinner. Meet at church 3:45PM. If you have never joined in a Mystery Dinner, here is how it works: you will come to church at 3:45PM to have appetizers, and then will receive printed directions on how to get to the restaurant. This one is still in Hernando County but at the end. Starting On Sunday, September 10th, we will accept sign-ins and a \$10.00 deposit per person. You will have the deposit returned to you the day of the dinner. An easy way to do it is to just write a check to Nativity Fellowship and we will return it. We do this because when we didn't and people just signed in and didn't come it cost us to pay the restaurants. We will accept deposits through September 24th if we have not reached the maximum of 40 people.

Thursday, October 26th, 5:00PM - Pasta Trivia Pursuit Night. Welcome again to our Pasta Trivia Night. We will be serving pasta, meatballs, salad, and dessert. After dinner we will be put into groups and play the Trivia Pursuit. The winning team will be rewarded "BIG PRIZES". We will start selling tickets for \$5.00 on Sunday, October 8th.

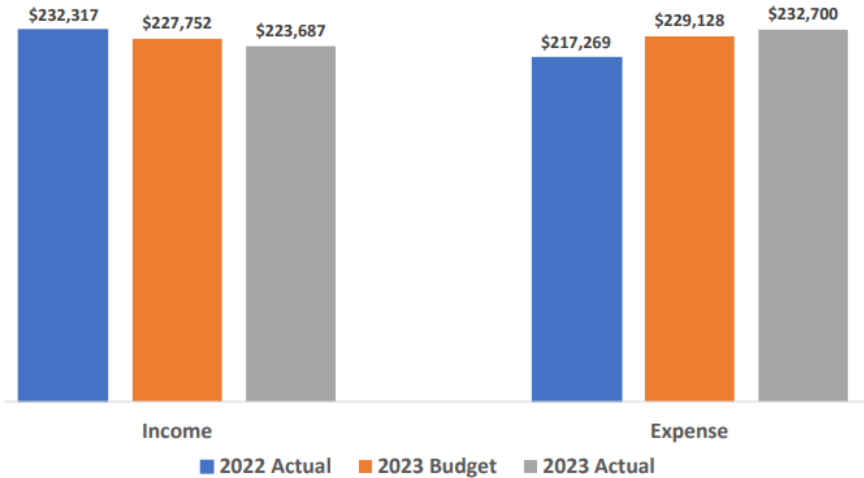
Tuesday, December 5th, 12:00PM - Decorate Christmas Tree in Winemiller Hall. We have not picked future events yet, but will at our meetings. We do know that we will be having a Brunch after the Christmas Cantata. Since we do not charge for this event we would appreciate it if you have a Thrivent action card we could use. If you are in Thrivent, just ask Tim Cotter and he will take care of it for you.

We would welcome anyone else who would like to join our committee. Normally we meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:30AM, but we will be up North for our Grand's wedding so our September meeting will be Tuesday September 5th at noon. If you have any questions give me a call at 352-797-9682.

~Patti Cotter

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY JULY 2023

2023 YTD Income and Expenses



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



TRINKETS & TREASURES - Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21 from 9AM-2PM. Donations will be accepted on Mondays from 9AM-12PM and Tuesdays from 1PM-4PM beginning Tuesday, September 5. No donations accepted after October 10. Items accepted include linens, knick knacks, small kitchen appliances, dishes, glasses, pocketbooks, DVDs/CDs, books, holiday items and more (any questions on items we will accept, please ask Evelyn Galli or Janet Jones).

We are seeking many volunteers to make this great fundraising event for our church a huge success.

Here are the volunteers we need:

1. To help sort and price items on the 2 donation days
2. To set up shelving on Friday, Oct. 13
3. To set up tables on Sunday, Oct. 15
4. Empty containers with donations on Monday, Oct. 16.
5. To help set up and price items Monday, Oct. 16-Thursday, Oct. 19
6. To pick up small furniture items from the Heather on Thursday, Oct. 19
7. To work on the 2 sale dates
8. To help break down on Monday, Oct. 23

Any day(s)/time you can help would be greatly appreciated. We have sign-up sheets in the narthex or you can call Evelyn Galli at 516-909-3119 or Janet Jones at 352-232-1074.

ALSO: We will be having a bake sale both days and, we would appreciate donations of cakes/cookies/brownies/cupcakes for Friday and Saturday. As we need a lot of tables for this event, if you have a folding table and/or card table that we could borrow for the T&T sale, please call Evelyn or Janet at one of the phone numbers above to arrange a drop off time. Please make sure the table is clearly labeled with name/phone number.

INTRODUCING NEW WAYS TO DONATE TO NATIVITY.

Nativity now has a Venmo account so if you also have a Venmo account, you can send a donation this way. Send to: @Nativity-LutheranChurch. You will know it is our account as you will see our logo.



With QR codes becoming more and more popular, we have created a QR code (see code on left) that is specifically for Nativity donations. Just point your phone's camera at it and a website address will pop up, press the site name and it will take you to a screen where you can enter in your details.

If any of these are new to you and you'd like to learn more, please see Evelyn Galli and she will show you how they work or you can call her at 516-909-3119 with any questions.

MEMBER UPDATES

Remembering Our Dearly Departed:

Janet Wilkens - July 26, 2023

Condolence cards can be sent to:

Craig & Keith Wilkens
9216 Tarleton Circle
Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Alfred Korndorfer - August 8, 2023

Condolence cards can be sent to:

Gertrude Korndorfer
12152 Thornridge Street
Brooksville, FL 34613

Address Change(s):

Ed Lewis
5350 W. Oak Park Blvd.
Homosassa, FL 34446

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



We are always looking for volunteers for various church duties. Volunteers are what help keep our church going and growing. If anything interests you please call the church office at 352-597-2456. THANK YOU!



October 28, 3PM-6PM. Nativity Church parking lot. To see how you can help, use the QR code below and your phone camera to open up the registration form.

GARDEN HELP WANTED. We need your help to maintain the gardens at the entrance of the administration building. A sign up sheet is on the kiosk in the narthex. Any questions, call the office at 352-597-1456.

AV OPERATORS NEEDED. The audio operator makes sure the congregation can hear the spoken word and music. Please consider helping to take on this very important (yet simple) task. Only one service, one Sunday a month is all that is required. Stop by the audio console at the rear of the sanctuary or call Art Alt at 352-596-1585 for more info.

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 **October** newsletter, please submit it to the office or via email to nativitylutheran63@gmail.com by **September 15th**.

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.

September Birthdays



Dennis Rogers	9/4
Anninette Wingrove	9/5
Mae Haines	9/5
Lorrie DeFrancesco	9/8
Cheryl Zybell	9/8
Julie Roa	9/8
Ruth Ann Hoy	9/9
Gwen Mahon	9/9
Guy Peeters	9/12
Wayne Rasper	9/12
Madison Gould	9/13
Gordon Lienau	9/14
Glenna Schantl	9/17
Joanne Manos	9/18
Nelly Herrera-Velez	9/20

Alice Wells	9/20
Mary McDowall	9/21
Heidi Maclean	9/22
Frani Barnes	9/24
Kathleen Olsen	9/24
Gertrude Korndorfer	9/25
Beryl Clements	9/27
Kendall White	9/27
Raina McDannold	9/30

September Wedding Anniversaries

Debra & Joseph LaFranca	9/4
Anninette & Charles Wingrove	9/5
Roselind & Clyde Rosten	9/9
Pam & Dennis Rogers	9/17
Darlene & Patrick Gould	9/18
Stephanie & Giuseppe Mattei	9/19
JoAnne & James Stuck	9/21
Dorothy & Leonard Outhouse	9/30



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...

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)