



# Happenings at NLC

October 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



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 &  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21  
9:00AM - 2:00PM**



**OCTOBER 28: 3PM-6PM.  
Nativity Church parking lot.**

## Upcoming Events

- October 1 - World Communion Day
- October 5 - Blessing of Animals
- October 22 - Weeki Wachee Winds  
Concert
- October 26 - Pasta Trivia Pursuit Night
- October 29 - Reformation Sunday

Please visit our website at  
[www.nlcww.org](http://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](http://www.nlcww.org)

# SPIRITUAL LIFE

**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](http://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.

**ALTAR GUILD - MONDAY, OCTOBER 23RD, at 10:00AM.** 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.

**GROWING IN GENEROSITY** is the theme of our fall stewardship campaign. Growing a generous heart is God's intention for us. The bigger our heart gets the more space there is for God to reside. And where God is there is joy, peace, and love. We will hear and read stories of how God has opened our hearts to generosity and mission. We will also have an opportunity to indicate how we want to be partners in ministry. An intent card will be mailed to every household to pray over and consider your financial support to Nativity. We will be collecting those intent cards and will have a celebration on Sunday, October 29.

**REFORMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29** - Reformation Day, the anniversary of the day Martin Luther is said to have posted his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany (October 31, 1517), is later identified by Protestants as the beginning of the Reformation. The European Lutheran territorial churches first commemorated the Reformation on various days, among them the anniversary of Luther's birth (November 10), his death (February 18), and presentation of the Augsburg Confession (June 25). The centennial celebrations of 1617 focused attention on October 31. The liturgical color for the celebration is red. **Please wear RED on this day.**

**THE NATIVITY CHANCEL 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.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 - ALL SAINTS' DAY** - Let the office know if you have had a loved one pass away during the last year (we have noted our members, so we are asking for non-members). Votive candles will be placed in the Baptismal Font area for you to light at the beginning of the service if you so choose.

**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](http://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** - Copies of the October/November/December issue of *Christ in Our Home* and September/October issue of *Living Lutheran* are 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 a “two-way” communication with God. At times, we speak and God listens; while other times, God speaks and we listen.

## **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 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.



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**SUNDAY SCHOOL - OCTOBER 1 & 15.** Children will depart after the Special Music during worship service, and meet the teachers in the back of the church. The children will return in time for Communion.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS - OCTOBER 8 & 22.** This class will take place after worship service on Sundays.

**CLUB 6363 - OCTOBER 1.** Club 6363 will meet the first Sunday of every month in Winemiller Hall.

To register, or if you have any questions, please email Todd Holly at [nativitypresidenttodd@gmail.com](mailto:nativitypresidenttodd@gmail.com).

**BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY.** Wednesday evenings, October 4th (Winemiller Hall) and 18th (Sanctuary) from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. The sessions are taught by the Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgeson, and are “Same-sex Scripture References in the Biblical Context,” and “Sexual Issues in the Church Today.” Everyone is welcome to learn and grow together.

# 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.

### Mission Personnel



*New missionaries and ELCA Service and Justice staff attend the New Missionary Orientation, held July 9-14 in Minneapolis, Minn. Left to right: Mary Rothenbach (S&J), Rev. Bridget Gautieri, Rev. Andrew Ronnevik, Meredith Ronnevik, Heather Hardecopf (S&J), Sophie Warnberg, Justin Mauney, Susan Seidel, Julia Kontur, Rev. Bekah Davis, Karleigh Crepin. Not pictured: Rob Forrest.*

This summer our church welcomed 10 new missionaries into service. They are now on their way to eight countries to walk alongside their new communities as teachers, pastors, pastoral interns, communicators and more. Here are a few things they're excited about as they begin their global service journeys:

“I want to grow as a pastoral care leader. I hope to walk alongside the people of Malaysia, not just in my congregation but all over the country — to hear their stories and learn how to be present with how God is working in the lives of people around me.” —*Justin Mauney, Horizon International intern in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

“Everyone needs community. We feel inspired to both embrace and be embraced by this vibrant community.” —*The Rev. Bekah Davis (and Rob Forrest), Pastor, St. Andrew's United Church of Cairo and Saint Andrew's Refugee Services, Egypt*

“We have so much to learn about God, ourselves and the world around us — and living intentionally in a new culture is a beautiful (and fun!) way to shape ourselves and our perspectives.” —*Julia Kontur, Central Europe Teacher in Slovakia*

“God's love and the gospel don't just happen in the United States. I want to be part of God's loving kingdom outside the U.S. and take what I learn back to the ELCA, to help grow the love of God.” —*Karleigh Crepin, Horizon International intern in Lyon, France*

As these missionaries begin their work, they need your support. Please donate at [www.community.elca.org/MissionaryGiving](http://www.community.elca.org/MissionaryGiving). Your gifts to ELCA missionaries will enable them to meet the needs identified by our global partners and to be fully present with our siblings in Christ around the world.



**October 28, 3PM-6PM. Nativity Church parking lot.**

Please join us for our first ever Trunk or Treat event. Let's keep it safe and enjoyable for all.

# 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, October 3rd 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.

**WEBSITE MEETING - OCTOBER 4TH at 4:00PM.** We will have our next meeting to discuss next steps for new NLC website. Any questions, please call Evelyn Galli at 516-909-3119.

**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 - OCTOBER 4TH.** All Women of Nativity are invited to join our bible study on October 4 at 9:45AM. For more information, please call Jean Drach at 352-684-1632.

**CARDS R US - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4TH & 11th.** We will be crafting greeting cards from our members' used, donated cards on October 4 and 11, 12:30-3:00pm, in Winemiller Hall. The cards we make are offered on kiosks in the narthex and in the administration bldg. hallway for a suggested donation of 75 cents. Your donations for the cards are given to Pastor's Discretionary Fund so he can help people in financial need. Join us to experience the fun they are to make! We encourage you to shop for your greeting cards at Nativity, including Halloween cards. For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

**FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE, OCTOBER 14** - Friendship Circle, let's take advantage of our lovely October weather! We'll gather for a beach potluck at Pine Island on Saturday, October 14, at 5:00pm. Sunset will happen at 7:10pm. Parking is \$5 per vehicle. Please bring a dish to share and also BYOB. We'll have devotions and a short meeting. If you care to share your faith journey with your circle friends, this meeting will be your opportunity. For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918. To carpool, meet at Nativity at 4:30pm.

**SARAH CIRCLE - OCTOBER 19TH @ 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 at Peggy Sanders home 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.

**CLUB 75. A new social group is starting up at Nativity Lutheran Church. Our first lunch gathering will be October 24th.**

The only criteria to be part of this fellowship group is that you must be 75 years old or older!

We plan to gather for lunch at a local restaurant or club once a month for the purpose of fellowship and casual discussion.

Transportation will be provided for everyone needing it.

Watch the bulletin and newsletter for details. You can also call Linda in the office with any questions (352-597-1456).

**WEEKI WACHEE WINDS CONCERT - OCTOBER 22 AT 2:00PM.** Under the direction of NLC member Mark Hengesh, Weeki Wachee Winds will be presenting their Fall Concert at Nativity in the sanctuary. The concert is free. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

## **PATTER FROM PATTI**

Well fall is here, a little different than up north that is for sure. Here is what we have coming up from the Fellowship Committee:

**Thursday, October 26th, 5:00PM, Pasta Team Trivia Night.** Come and join us for a fun night of yummy pasta dinner and being on a team that could win wonderful “big prizes” We will be in Winemiller Hall and tickets will be \$5.00 per person. We will start selling tickets on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:00PM, Movie Pizza Night.** We will be having 3 different types of pizza, soft drinks, and movie popcorn, Tickets will be \$3.00. We will start selling tickets on October 29th

**Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 12:00PM, Christmas Tree Decorating in Winemiller.**



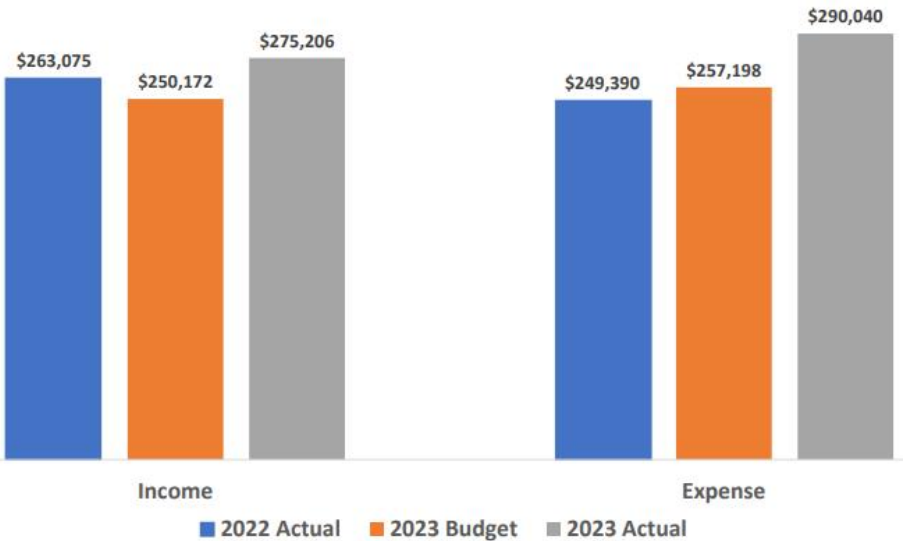
**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, brunch after the Christmas Cantata Service.** Fellowship offers you a complimentary brunch following the service, we do not ask for funds, but do ask for you to sign up so we know how much food to prepare. You can sign in starting on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

This is all we have planned so far, and we welcome everyone.

*~Patti Cotter*

## FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY AUGUST 2023

### 2023 YTD Income and Expenses



If you have any questions, please contact Pat Squires at [patsquires63@gmail.com](mailto:patsquires63@gmail.com).



**TRINKETS & TREASURES - Friday, October 20 and Saturday, October 21 from 9AM-2PM.** We are coming up on when the day days that we will accept donations which will be Monday, October 2 & 9 from 9AM-12PM and Tuesday, October 3 & 10 from 1PM-4PM. 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 donation days
2. To set up shelving on Friday, Oct. 13 (need approximately 8 people)
3. To set up tables on Sunday, Oct. 15 (need 4-6 people)
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 (need someone who has a truck and 2-3 strong people)
7. To work on the 2 sale dates
8. To help break down on Monday, Oct. 23

Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex or call Evelyn Galli at 516-909-3119 to let her know you can help and with what.

**BAKE SALE:** As we are having a bake sale both days, we would appreciate donations of cakes/cookies/brownies/cupcakes for Friday and Saturday. We will have a sheet with information on the bake sale available in the narthex and admin building as well as plastic containers for you to put your baked goods in. Please see or call Janet Jones at 352-232-0174.

**TABLES:** if you If you have a folding table and/or card table that we could borrow for the T&T sale, please call Evelyn at 516-909-3119 to arrange a drop off day/time. Make sure your name/phone number is clearly indicated on bottom of table so we can make sure it gets returned to you.

### **INTRODUCING NEW WAYS TO DONATE TO NATIVITY.**

Nativity now has a Venmo account, send to: @Nativity-LutheranChurch. You will know it is our account as you will see our logo.



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:**

#### ***Guy Peeters - September 10, 2023***

Condolence cards can be sent to:

Sandy Peeters  
8084 1st Circle Drive  
Brooksville, FL 34613

#### ***Gertrude Korndoerfer - September 15, 2023***

Condolence cards can be sent to:

Karen Killinger  
938 Bloomington Court  
Ocoee, FL 34761

### **Address Change(s):**

Terry Halgren & Susan Lee  
674 Orange Blossom Court  
Marine City, MI 48039

Pam & Dennis Rogers  
207 Oak Cove Drive  
Columbia, SC 29229

Keep us informed of any changes to your home address, email, or phone number. Call the office at 352-597-1456.

# 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 **November** newsletter, please submit it to the office or via email to [nativitylutheran63@gmail.com](mailto:nativitylutheran63@gmail.com) by **October 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](http://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](mailto:nativitylutheran63@gmail.com) or via the form on the website. This will help resolve any conflicts that may arise.

## October Birthdays

William Hockings	10/1
Barbara Crisanti	10/4
Darinka Lienau	10/8
Susan Taylor	10/8
Judith Brayman	10/9
Richard Wright	10/9
Nancy Vangilder	10/12
Jo Anne Boggus	10/13
Nancy Johnson	10/13
Lyle Condo	10/14
Evelyn Lawlor	10/15
Germaine Major	10/15
Michael Capellupo	10/16
Karen Chipko	10/18
Mark Hengesh	10/18
Sharon Schroeder	10/18
Agnes Burkart	10/19
Pat Squires	10/22
Vita Condo	10/23



Donna Colombo	10/26
Judith Seidl	10/26
Nancy Trott	10/27
Edward Lewis	10/28
Evelyn Galli	10/28
Nick Hassis	10/28
Penny Morman	10/29
Laura Nelson	10/30
Kathy Hackemer	10/31
David VanHorn	10/31

## October Wedding Anniversaries

Mary & Robert McDowall	10/1
Terri & Michael Breida	10/5
Germaine & Claude Major	10/8
June & Buddy Kristoferson	10/17
Jena & Joe Kleiber	10/25
Joan & Wayne Rasper	10/25



## **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)