



Happenings at NLC

November 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

November 21, 2023
Thanksgiving Service, 11:00AM
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Happy Thanksgiving
November 23, 2023

Thanks be to God



Upcoming Events

November 23 - Office & food pantry closed

December 9 - W.O.N. Christmas Lunch

December 10 - Congregational Meeting

December 16 - Angel Tree Party

December 17 - Cantata and brunch

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

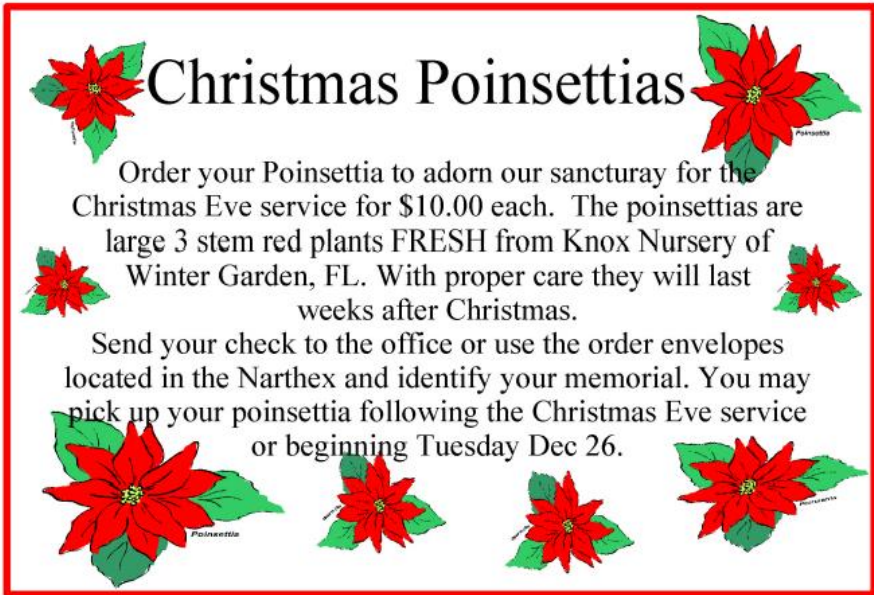
SPIRITUAL LIFE

ALL SAINTS DAY, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5th. On this day we remember all our dearly departed family and friends. Votive candles will be placed in the Baptismal Font area for you to light at the beginning of the service if you so choose. There will also be a small table to place pictures of your loved ones that have passed away.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE - NOVEMBER 21, 11:00AM. This is a good time to come out in gratitude and give thanks to God for all the blessings received. Service will take place at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 6193 Spring Hill Dr, Spring Hill, FL 34606. Please, stay for food and refreshments following the worship service.

ALTAR GUILD - MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 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, 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.

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.



Christmas Poinsettias

Order your Poinsettia to adorn our sanctuary for the Christmas Eve service for \$10.00 each. The poinsettias are large 3 stem red plants FRESH from Knox Nursery of Winter Garden, FL. With proper care they will last weeks after Christmas.

Send your check to the office or use the order envelopes located in the Narthex and identify your memorial. You may pick up your poinsettia following the Christmas Eve service or beginning Tuesday Dec 26.

We will start taking orders on Sunday, December 3. Special envelopes will be available in the narthex by the poinsettia display.

We also have available 6 large white poinsettias with red foil. They will cost \$25.00 each, and are on a first-come first-serve basis. You may purchase these through Linda at the church office.

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.

***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.

MONEY MATTERS. Our relationship with money matters because it is a spiritual matter. The way we relate to money reveals our trust in God and the life abundant God is ready to give us. Is God the treasure in whom our heart rests (Matthew 6:21)? We may use our financial resources to do a lot of good. Thank you to all who have turned in their estimate of giving or intent card.

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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL - NOVEMBER 5 & 19. 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 - NOVEMBER 19. This class will take place after worship service on Sundays.

CLUB 6363 - NOVEMBER 5. Club 6363 will meet the first Sunday of every month in Winemiller Hall at 6:00PM.

To register, or if you have any questions, please email Todd Holly at nativitypresidenttodd@gmail.com.

OUTREACH

ANGEL TREE OPPORTUNITY. 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 16th 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. Please, join us for the fun. Any questions, contact Linda Russo at 352-596-0673 or 352-428-7764.

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH: LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Your love is needed now, more than ever. Lutheran World Relief has a long history of reaching our neighbors in Israel and Gaza. We join you in praying urgently, and we thank you for standing ready to care for innocent civilians caught in the crossfire. From sending emergency health care supplies to delivering LWR Mission Quilts, your love has long been reaching our neighbors caught in conflict. With your support, together, we will not abandon these neighbors now. The compassion of faithful people like you is needed in the hardest to reach places — places where innocent children, women and men are suffering. Your caring gift will deliver critically needed resources like medical care, food, water and essential supplies where they are needed most. Please, write a check to Nativity Lutheran Church with LWR in the memo line and the amount will be credited to you.

ATTENTION ALL THRIVENT MEMBERS:

There is still time to submit your Action Team Project or Choice Dollars before 12/31/2023. Call Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836, and ask if you have anything available.

Here are some sample projects:

1. Crafty Ladies - material for quilts
2. Days for Girls - material for hygiene kits
3. Nativity Food Pantry - various food items
4. Cards R Us - material for making cards (Pastor's Discretionary Fund)
5. NLC Bell Choir and Music Choir - bells/music/folders
6. Homeless - gloves/socks/blankets

Tim Cotter or Ernie Horeis will help you submit a project and help you do your project. You will receive a \$250.00 credit card (seed money) that will help our community, and our Church's Mission Outreach.

P.S.: If you would like to become a Thrivent Associate Member, a donation of \$19.95 for the year is all that is needed when applying.

Contact Tim Cotter at 352-797-9682, or Ernie Horeis at 352-346-2333.

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 BIBLE STUDY - NOVEMBER 1st. All Women of Nativity are invited to join our bible study on November 1st at 9:45AM. For more information, please call Jean Drach at 352-684-1632.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - our next meeting will be TUESDAY, November 7th and 21st 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.

CARDS R US - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1 & 8, 12:30PM- 3:00PM. To help with this mission and have fun at the same time, you're invited to join us in Winemiller Hall. Browse our kiosks in the narthex and administration bldg. hallway for your Thanksgiving, birthday, sympathy, get well, etc. cards. Your donations for our cards (suggested donation of 75 cents) provide funds for Pastor's Discretionary Fund, helping those with one-time financial emergencies. Since the courtyard gate will be locked at about 1:00pm, please use the doorbell on Al Lien Hall and/or call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918. We'll come let you in.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE, NOVEMBER 9 - Friendship Circle will see a Tribute to Elton John at 7:00pm on Thursday evening, November 9, at the Brookridge Clubhouse, 8150 Hampton St., Brooksville 34613. This concert features Rus Anderson, Elton's official body double in the Farewell Yellow Brick Road tour. Cost is \$20. There are currently about 25 reserved seats available. General admission seats, located behind the reserved seats, are also available. Walk-ins are welcome. You may call Brookridge Entertainment at 352-667-2947 to reserve your seats. If you prefer, Susan Norstrom at 352-428-1918 will purchase tickets for you. Prior to the concert, at 4:45pm, we will have devotions, a short meeting and dinner at Ruby Tuesday's, 13095 Cortez Blvd, Brooksville, 34613. Everyone is welcome to join us!

SARAH CIRCLE - NOVEMBER 16TH @ 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. Our next social group luncheon will be Tuesday, November 28th.

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 (352-597-1456), or Vicki Page (352-210-8407).

PATTER FROM PATTI

Can you believe we are already hitting the Holiday Season??? We are so happy that so many snowbirds have returned, so here is what we have going on:

Friday, November 17th 5:00 Pizza Movie Night. The movie is a comedy—Oh Brother Where Art Though. We will be having pizza, pop, and popcorn. The cost will be \$3.00 and we will start to sell tickets on Sunday October 29th.

Tuesday, December 5th at noon we will be setting up and decorating our 12 ft Christmas tree in Winemiller. We would appreciate all of the folks who would give us a hand in decorating.

Sunday December 17th is the Choir Cantata and following the complimentary brunch given by the Fellowship Committee. All though we offer this we beg you to sign up in advance so we know how many people to prepare for. We will start the sign-up on Sunday, December 3rd.

Our committee is already discussing activities for the following year. We will probably have a Mystery Dinner in January. We are starting to plan our big event of the season. We have permission to offer a bingo night with dinner. We have a lot of details to work out before it. We will plan it so there is no financial gambling. We so much hope to find a bingo set that someone has or can borrow. If anyone knows, please let us know.

We all look forward to the season and wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving.

~Patti Cotter



Trinkets & Treasures - October 20 & 21. Not only was our sale a huge success, it was a great time for fellowship. We made a total of \$7,675. The raffle proceeds (\$712) were distributed to the food pantry, Crafty Ladies and Days for Girls.

We'd like to thank everyone who donated items for sale, the more than 50 volunteers who helped with the sale as well as everyone who came out and supported it.

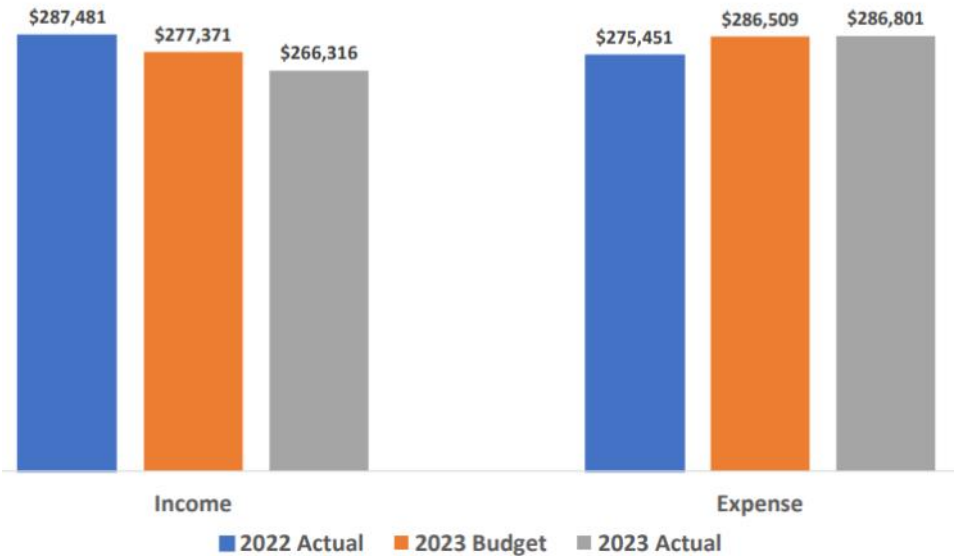
The dates for 2024 have been set and they are April 19 and 20 and October 4 and 5. We will keep you posted on when we will start accepting donations for the spring sale.

God bless each and every one of you.

Evelyn Galli and Janet Jones

**FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY
SEPTEMBER 2023**

2023 YTD Income and Expenses



As you will see from the above chart, our expenses are quite a bit more than our income. In June of this year, our property insurance had to be renewed and just like many homeowners' insurance policies, the premium went up. We had only budgeted \$20,000 for the insurance, however, the cost was actually over \$33,000. As we did have enough cash to pay the full premium, it was decided by finance that we pay the full amount. It avoided us having to finance it, and allowed us to save over \$1,000 in finance charges.

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

REMINDER

Sunday, November 5



SAVE THE DATE

Special Events Coming in December

Sunday, December 3 - Weeki Wachee Winds Concert

Saturday, December 9 - W.O.N. Christmas Luncheon

Sunday, December 10 - Congregational Meeting

Saturday, December 16 - Angel Tree Party

Sunday, December 17 - Christmas Cantata and Brunch

Sunday, December 24 - 9:30AM 4th Sunday of Advent Svc
7:00PM Christmas Eve Service

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS DUE DECEMBER 15th:

All ministry teams and committees are asked to turn in an annual report to the church office by December 15. Any questions, please call the church 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!

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

November Birthdays



Annie Douglas	11/5		
Diane Alt	11/7		
Carole Schaefer	11/8		
Michele Oliver	11/11		
Marian Lyons	11/13	Walter Johnson	11/22
Eleanor Southey	11/13	Angela Russell	11/23
William Binns	11/16	Bob Benson	11/27
George Smith	11/16	Arthur Olsen	11/27
Glenn Houdek	11/17	Janet Schneider	11/28
Elva Posewitz	11/17	Grace Signor	11/28
Cam Martin	11/20	Margaret King	11/30
Michael Jones	11/21	David Smith	11/30

November Wedding Anniversaries

Monika & Michael Brennan	11/4
Agnes & Eugene Burkart	11/14
Nancy & Martin Salzbach	11/16
Leonore & Gary Kopitzke	11/18
Lynn & Carl Roa	11/20
Mary & Harold Reber	11/21
Janet & William Schneider	11/21
Darinka & Gordon Lienau	11/21
Nancy & Andrew Trott	11/24



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)