



# Happenings at NLC

May 2024

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 5 - Rachel's Day**

**Sunday, May 12**



**Sunday, May 19 - Day of Pentecost**



## Upcoming Events

May 26 - Memorial Day Cookout after service

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

# SPIRITUAL LIFE

**RACHEL'S DAY, MAY 5, 2024** - 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 the Dawn Center and Children's Advocate Center of Hernando County.

**PENTECOST—SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024.** 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. 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 27, 2024, 10:00AM.**

**DWELLING IN THE WORD (LECTIO DIVINA)** is a Bible-based prayer. The prayer has been offered for several weeks after Easter and will resume again in June. Dates to be announced.

**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 per vase). 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 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

**THRIVENT - Membership programs can help you be generous.** Thrivent offers a variety of ways to help you be generous. Consider one of these membership programs for 2024:

**Thrivent Action Teams:** Simply gather a team of friends, family or neighbors and put on a fundraiser, educational event or service activity. Thrivent provides you the resources to get started.

**Thrivent Choice:** Eligible clients can direct Choice Dollars to organizations and causes, and influence how Thrivent distributes some of the programs funding.

**Online giving platform:** Make a donation to one of the more than 45,000 organizations enrolled in Thrivent Choice. Thrivent pays the processing fees.

**Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent Partnership:** Help ensure everyone has access to safe and affordable housing in the US and around the world.

To learn more visit: [thrivent.com/livegenerously](http://thrivent.com/livegenerously), or contact Ernie Horeis 352-600-5906; Tim Cotter 352-797-9682.

## **FOOD PANTRY TIDBITS – MAY 2024**

The month of May is an important month for food pantries across Hernando County. **ON SATURDAY, MAY 11th, the annual United States Postal Food Drive is held across the nation.** In Hernando County, boxes and bags of food are collected by mail carriers and brought to Forest Oaks Lutheran Church for processing. The food is then given to participating local pantries.

As a participating pantry, Nativity Lutheran Church needs to provide volunteers to assist that morning and early afternoon. We need to supply people in three ways:

1. Help to sort and box food at Forest Oaks Church.
2. Drive banana boxes full of food back to Nativity.
3. Help to sort the boxes that are delivered to Nativity.

We will need about 10 people to assist us on that Saturday. A sign up sheet will be posted in the narthex or you can reach out to Todd and Janet Holly (352-503-6215). Thanks for your help in advance.

## **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, MAY 1ST, 9:45AM.** This will be our last meeting until the fall. Watch for announcements for any summer bible studies.

**CARDS R US - MONDAY, MAY 6 & 13, 10:00AM-12:30PM (WINEMILLER HALL).** 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 12. 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. We'd love for you to join us in this mission by making cards from donated, used cards. For info, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

**DAYS FOR GIRLS - THURSDAY, MAY 7TH AND 21ST - 9:00AM - 12:00PM (AL LIEN).** 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.

**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.** Outing for May will be announced at a later date. Watch weekly announcements for more information. For further information about this circle, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

**TRINKETS & TREASURES** - We would like to thank everyone who helped make the Trinkets & Treasures sale a huge success. We made a total of \$6,900. 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 4 and 5 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.

**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, June 16. Out of state graduates will be able to follow the service on line at [www.nlcww.org](http://www.nlcww.org).

## **PATTER FROM PATTI**

The following event is our last until Fall, we are so pleased with all of the participants of the events this season. Our next one will be a Mystery Dinner in September. If anyone would like to join our Fellowship Committee our next meeting will be September 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Memorial Weekend Cook-Out Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> after the service.**

While the service is going on you will get to enjoy the good smells from the cooking in the courtyard. Here is the recipe: Bratwursts, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Sauerkraut and added this year baked beans, for dessert cupcakes. It is such a deal only \$5.00 per person, kids no charge but as all will do when you sign in you have to mark what kind of sandwich you want. We will be serving in Winemiller Hall. I will start taking signups Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

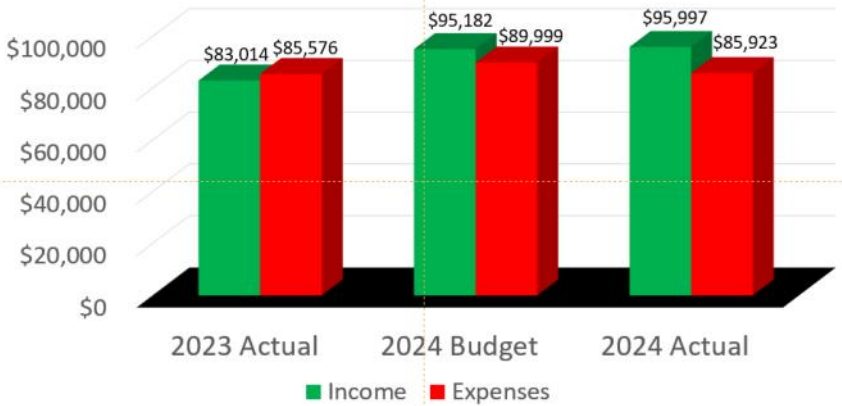
If you have any questions about anything Fellowship, or if you have suggestions for us give me a call at 352-797-9682.

*~Patti Cotter*

# FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

## MARCH 2023

### 2024 Income and Expenses (Through March)



Important Note: Easter in March in 2024; April in 2023

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Henkel at [scott.henkel@capgemini.com](mailto:scott.henkel@capgemini.com).

**WAYS TO DONATE TO NATIVITY.** Nativity has a Venmo account. You can send a donation to: @Nativity-LutheranChurch. Also, if you prefer, Nativity has a Zelle account. Send to: [nativitylutheran63@gmail.com](mailto:nativitylutheran63@gmail.com). Also available is the QR code (see code on right) that is specifically for Nativity donations. Just point your phone's camera at it and a website address will pop up.





## MEMBER CHANGES

We will say "Good Bye" to Carolyn and Dow Chamberlain on May 12 as they relocate out of state. Their new address will be communicated soon.

### **Dearly Departed:**

*Condolence cards:*                    **Jim Hennessey**  
Roselyn Hennessey  
7420 Tranquil Drive  
Spring Hill, FL 34606

*Condolence cards:*                    **Ann Hansen**  
Donna Olsen  
3410 N. Bay Ave.  
Crystal River, FL 34428

## 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](mailto: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](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.

## 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
Jeff Werner	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
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
Tom Kull	5/25
Winona Binns	5/27
Chestley Merritt	5/27
Alice Seeholzer	5/28
Ruth Ann Gosen	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
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)