



NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE

"With the birth of Jesus in our hearts, we carry light and love to the world."

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30AM

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Please silence your cell phone during the service.

Welcome! We pray this time will be a blessing and a source of spiritual strength for you.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

ASH WEDNESDAY INVITATION

Begin your Lenten journey with us on **Ash Wednesday, February 18, at 5:00PM**. This special service invites all ages to gather for prayer, reflection, and the ancient ritual of receiving ashes as a sign of repentance and hope. Come as you are and enter this sacred season with a spirit open to God's renewing presence.

Lenten Midweek Series: Growing in Spirit

Following Ash Wednesday, which opens the season of Lent, we invite you into a five-week journey of spiritual renewal called **"Growing in Spirit."** Each week explores a different movement of growth in the Christian life: Rooted, Nourished, Stretched, Opened, and Made Fruitful by God's Spirit. Through Scripture, prayer, silence, and simple ritual actions, we will reflect on how God shapes us for deeper faith and compassionate living.

Join us on Wednesday evenings for a light meal at 4:45PM in Winemiller Hall and/or at 5:30PM for a reflective prayer service in the sanctuary starting on **February 25**. Whether you come seeking quiet, community, or a renewed sense of purpose, you'll find space here to breathe, listen, pray and grow.

COMMUNITY LIFE

TODAY, JANUARY 18, ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING. The agenda for this meeting will include the Annual Report, and our year-end financial reports from the Financial Secretary and Treasurer. We are asking congregational members to make the time to attend this important meeting which will occur after the 9:30AM service in Winemiller Hall.

SPAGHETTI LUNCH, JANUARY 18 - Everyone is invited to a free spaghetti lunch sponsored by W.O.N. (Women of Nativity) in Winemiller Hall immediately following the January 18 Congregational Annual Meeting. A Love Offering will be collected to support the ministries of W.O.N. We hope you can join us for a time of fellowship over a nice meal.

TRINKETS AND TREASURES MEETING - MONDAY, JANUARY 26 @ 10:00AM. We are in need of volunteers for this fundraising event, and we hope you can join us for our start-up meeting. Starting Monday, February 16 and ending on Tuesday, March 24, we will be accepting donations at church on Mondays from 9a-12p and Tuesdays from 1p-4p.

JANUARY 24, TACO/BINGO NIGHT. Fellowship will be hosting a taco/bingo night. Cost is \$5 per person. If you plan to attend, please sign up in the narthex before/after Sunday services. Any questions, please see or call Carol Anderson @ 630-564-7135.

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES. Offering envelopes are in your mailbox in Winemiller Hall. Please make sure to pick them up as they have other special offering envelopes to use throughout the year.

COURTYARD MEMORIAL PAVERS. If you would like to purchase a paver and have it inscribed in memory or in honor of someone, there are forms in the office, or pick one up in the narthex. The cost is \$75 per paver. We are hoping to place an order beginning of February 2026.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME - We have received our copies of the January/February/March issue of *Christ in Our Home*. They are available in the narthex, or stop by the office between 9:00AM and 12PM. A donation would be appreciated to offset the costs of the devotionals as they cost \$2.00 for the small devotional and \$3.75 for the large devotional. 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.

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.



Also available is the 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.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Sunday School is every Sunday at 9:45AM. For more information call Noel Prettyman at 352-515-3345.

OUTREACH

FOOD PANTRY: Jan 14 & 15
Total Shoppers 34; Total Served 136
January's donation of the month:
Jars of Instant Coffee

JANUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH - FOOD PANTRY.
Nativity Lutheran Church operates a food pantry to help feed those in our community who are in need. Our food pantry is open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Donations of non-perishable items are always needed and can be dropped off during church hours Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Money donations are also accepted. You can use the green envelope in the church pew and make sure to note "Food Pantry" on the envelope. For more information, please contact Gwen Mahon (352-200-6028) or Noel Prettyman (352-515-3345).

HELP US KEEP IN TOUCH – If you know anyone in our congregation that is hospitalized, in need of home communion or a pastoral call, please call the office at **352-597-1456**.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday, 9AM - 12PM
FOOD PANTRY: Wedn & Thurs 9:30AM - 12:30PM

INTERNET. When on campus look for **Nativity 2**, the password is **guest1234**.

PASTOR'S SCHEDULE - Pr. Giuseppe will be at the office on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Visitations will be made in the afternoons. He'll be off on Thursday and Friday for personal care and family commitments and working on his sermon on Saturday.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Monday, January 19

Bell Choir (Sanctuary)	4:30PM
Harmonizers (Winemiller)	6:00PM

Tuesday, January 20

Days for Girls (Al Lien)	9:00AM
Club 75 (Carrabba's, Cortez Blvd)	12:00PM
Dwelling in the World (zoom)	12:55PM
Girl Scouts Troop #24409 (Al Lien)	6:30PM

Wednesday, January 21

Food Pantry (Al Lien)	9:30AM
Confirmation Class (zoom)	10:00AM
Dwelling in the Word (zoom)	12:00PM
Mission & Outreach (Library)	1:00PM
Homeless Initiative Mtg (Winemiller)	4:00PM
Innovation Church (Library)	5:30PM
Girl Scout Troop #24401 (Al Lien)	6:00PM
Choir Practice (Sanctuary)	6:00PM

Thursday, January 22

TOPS (Winemiller)	9:00AM
Food Pantry (Al Lien)	9:30AM
Mission Endowment Cmte (Library)	2:30PM

Friday, January 23

Crafty Ladies (Al Lien)	9:00AM
Girl Scout Troop #24417 (Winemiller)	6:30PM
AA Meeting (Al Lien)	6:30PM

Saturday, January 24

Taco/Bingo Night (Winemiller)	5:00PM
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Sunday, January 25

Worship Service (Sanctuary)	9:30AM
Sunday School (Al Lien)	9:45AM

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS:

Feb. 1 - Four Chaplains Service -
Temple Beth David @ 3P
Feb. 18 - Ash Wednesday Service @ 5P

