



Happenings at NLC

September 2020

Monthly Newsletter

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

Worship Services online: nlcww.org

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei



Upcoming Events

September 7 - Labor Day (*office closed*)

September 15 - Men's Breakfast, 8:30AM
Perkins Restaurant

September 23 - Days for Girls, 9:00AM
NLC, Al Lien Hall

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

While most meetings are canceled, there may be a request to meet by the ministry leader.

SOUL SEEKERS - At this time the group will not meet until January 2021, but only after a re-evaluation of the current state of the pandemic. Questions please contact Michelle Mehan-Conklin at 727-267-1047, or email shelltbf@hotmai.com.

ALTAR GUILD - no meeting in September.

NLC'S SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - 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.

OUTREACH

MISSION OF THE MONTH — HAITI

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 Lutherie d'Haiti (ELH), the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Guyana (ELCG), and the Iglesia Evangelic Unita-Sinodo Luterano (IEU-SL) in Cuba.

Funds are still being solicited for special projects in Haiti (seeds, goats, church windows and doors, office equipment), and for impoverished congregations.

FOOD PANTRY - our food pantry is open on Thursdays only from 9:30AM - 1:00PM. Donations for this mission are greatly appreciated and accepted Monday - Friday from 9:00AM to 12:00N at the church office.

UPCOMING EVENTS - OCTOBER 4, 2020

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY 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). For the past few years a procession of national flags has kicked off the celebration of World Communion Sunday. We will obviously miss the festive procession this year as we are still worshipping virtually, but we will still pray for the common witness of the universal Church.

GLOBAL MISSION is also the first Sunday in October. We remember our common bond with the churches our missionaries have helped start globally and the ones with which we have been in accompaniment for sometimes. Paul writes,

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith.” Colossians 2:6–7a.

Rooted and built in Jesus! This is the core of our work as the ELCA walks with more than 80 companion churches in other countries to participate in God’s reconciling mission through proclamation and service. Participating in these relationships, ELCA members see how people’s lives are touched by the gospel, how their lives are transformed and renewed, and how their communities live in hope. Our living, daring confidence in God’s grace propels us, along with our companions, to say “yes” to a world searching for renewal and wholeness. As part of a global Lutheran community, we gratefully receive the witness of global brothers and sisters whose faith, hospitality, resilience, and zeal energize us and our own congregations. In response, we share our gifts and talents to address the root causes of poverty and hunger and meeting human needs, fight HIV and AIDS, build communities that coexist in peace, and prepare women and men to preach the good news of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

Throughout the month of October we will hear faith stories from around the world and pray for local and global needs.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Discipleship)

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Confirmands, class resumes on Friday, September 25 at 3:30 PM. The classes will be held every Friday until the end of the year, and students are invited to connect via zoom. We will adjust for holidays as needed. Have with you, your Bible, writing material, and your copy of Luther's Small Catechism.

Duration: Every week on Friday starting September 25 until January 1, 2021.

Time: 3:30PM

Access the church calendar for log in link.

Meeting ID: 841 3986 9539; Passcode: 770125

One tap mobile : +19292056099, 84139869539#, 0#

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL - suspended until further notice.

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.

PATTER FROM PATTI

It sure has been rough not being able to see all of our Nativity friends. We miss you all! As you can imagine, we really can't schedule anything with the Fellowship Committee until we are able to be together again. Be sure when we are, we will plan some fun activities! Our committee will be ready to get it done!

I want to take this opportunity to thank you all for your prayers and concern as I have dealt with my health challenges. I wish I could say it is over, but there are still some challenges in the works. At times like this you realize how wonderful your church family is and how blessed we are to be a part of it. Stay healthy and we look forward to being together again!

Patti Cotter

TRINKETS AND TREASURES - We are still hoping to have this fundraising event on Saturday, October 17, and we will be looking for donations of various items. Things we will accept are as follows: dishes, glassware, kitchen items, pictures, books, toys, CDs, DVDs, DVD players, computers, speakers, small appliances, holiday decorations, tools, and knick knacks in good condition. Items that we will NOT accept include: clothes, large appliances, TVs, Christmas string lights, and furniture. If you would like to donate items (or have any questions), please call Evelyn Galli at 352-684-2261 or 516-909-3119 to arrange a drop off time.



Florida-Bahamas Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.
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813.876.7660 • www.fbsynod.com • info@fbsynod.org

August 15, 2020

Nativity Lutheran Church
6363 Commercial Way
Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Dear friends in Christ at Nativity Lutheran Church:

Thank you for the Mission Support of \$4,949.17 you have shared with Christ's wider Church between February 1 and July 31, 2020 through and as part of the Florida-Bahamas Synod. Your continued support, especially during these challenging times, is greatly appreciated. With your support we can continue our work as church together, so that we might joyfully serve our God in service, sacrifice, and celebration.

Mission Support helps us participate in the miracles of the Christ as we respond to the needs before us. It helps us train up leaders and pastors, feed people in need, respond to natural disasters, provide resources to congregations for their viability and growth, and the list goes on and on. Your Mission Support is vital to who we are and what we can do.

At our 2019 Treasurer's Gatherings, the majority preferred to receive quarterly statements rather than only one at the end of the year. We look to honor that request. We ask that you please make sure that our records are correct.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry. We pray faithfully for your congregation. Let us know how we might be of greater service to you.

In God's Peace,

The Rev. Pedro M. Suarez, Bishop
Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA

SANCTUARY VIDEO PROJECT

Our Sanctuary Screen Project is moving along thanks to the fantastically generous response of many members. We are still a few thousand dollars short of the cost of the project. If you haven't yet made a contribution, please consider helping us reach our goal.

Help us complete the picture.
Our Goal \$19,500



as of August 21
\$15,825.

Nativity Lutheran Church, ELCA, Weeki Wachee, Florida
Pledge via e-mail: nativitylutheran63@gmail.com
Include: Video Screen Project, your name, the amount.

CRAFTY LADIES - Fridays, 9:00AM - 11:00AM.

Crafty Ladies will meet on Fridays, 9:00AM-11:00AM. Coffee hour will not take place during this time. CDC guidelines will be followed. Questions? Call Jill Helgeson at 352-686-3367.

CARDS R US - Wednesday, September 2 & 9- 12:30PM-3PM, Winemiller Hall. We will enjoy crafting new greeting cards from donated, used greeting cards, while observing distancing guidelines. Our work platform will be set up using 3 tables across. Everyone is invited to join in this mission project, which raises money for Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help people in need. For more information, contact Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - will not get together in September.

MEN'S BREAKFAST - Tuesday, September 15, 2020 - 8:30AM. Please join us at **PERKINS RESTAURANT**, 4685 Commercial Way, Spring Hill, for fellowship and breakfast. For more info on this group, please call Jim Christensen at 352-683-9141.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - next meeting will be September 23 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.

THE NATIVITY CUP GOLF TOURNAMENTS are suspended until further notice. We will re-evaluate starting these up again in a few months.

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Attendance: July's on-line attendance is up slightly from June's attendance. The average was 219 on-line views. Using the 1.3 multiplier that is used to reflect Nativity's unique demographics, this equals 285 in-person attendees. This number is similar to what a monthly in-person worship attendance would be during the Fall.

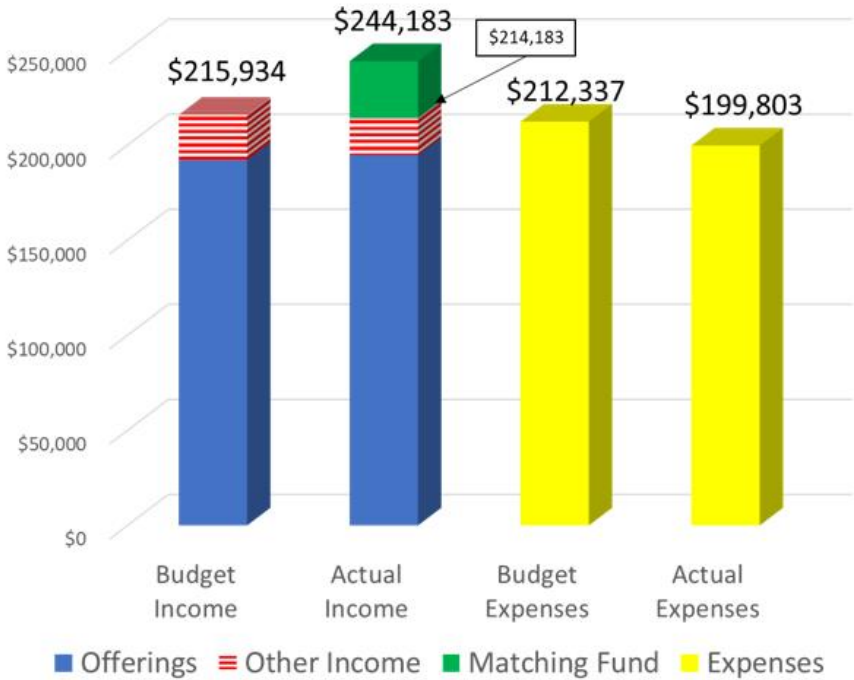
Income: July's income was on budget! Also, July's 2020 income matched July of 2019. Our budgeting process correctly predicted what this year's income would be---even during a pandemic. With our congregation's continued commitment to their pledges Nativity is meeting its goals.

Other Income: The bi-yearly Morganroth distribution expected in July was received. Also, the Matching Funds distribution is shown on the Income & Expense statement but remains unspent.

Expenses: Expenses are well below budget due to lack of in-person worship. Building Maintenance continues, though, as maintaining our facility is a priority even during non-worship times.

Questions: Contact Jane Henkel at jetgal55@gmail.com for Income questions and Ev Galli, Treasurer at evgall@bcany.com for Expense questions.

2020 Year-To-Date Income and Expenses (Through July)



Questions: jane.henkel@nlcww.org

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 people that have 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. 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.

REMINDERS

Temporary Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - noon

ZOOM ACCOUNT. Nativity now has a Zoom account which can be used by any groups wanting to meet virtually. Even if someone in your group does not have a computer, they can still participate by dialing in (phone numbers are provided in the meeting details). If you wish to try a Zoom meeting, please contact the office (352-597-1456), and Linda will be more than happy to assist in setting it up.

LOCK BOX INSTALLED. For your convenience, we have installed a lock box outside Al Lien Hall door (next to the playground). This will make it more convenient if you wish to drop off your donation, or any mail for the church, in the secured lock box, which is checked daily.

DOOR BELL. Also for your convenience, so you don't have to go through the courtyard gates, a door bell has been installed on the Al Lien Hall door.

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 by **September 15**.

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...

Giving Worship and Praise to our God: Presenting ourselves before God as adoring servants, who, in loving God, recognize that it is no longer we who are at the center of the universe, but the One to whom we are singing our praises.

Intentionally giving ourselves as Christ's servants: Participating in his mission in the world, helping those who need our help, both in our church family and in the world beyond: recognizing that there can never really be any peace or joy for us until there is peace and joy for others.

Opening our doors and our hearts to all people: Welcoming all to our fellowship, caring for all in Christian love, and reaching out with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Encouraging each other to grow in faith: Growing our understanding of the scripture and God's leading in our lives through study of the Word, meditation, and prayer; knowing that learning is not just a matter of the mind, but also of the heart, and that raising questions is sometimes of more value than finding answers.

Being responsible to God through the creative use of our income, possessions, time and talent; recognizing that loving our neighbor is not so much a feeling as it is an act of will, and that sharing what we have on behalf of the Kingdom of God is only giving back what was already God's to being with.

Celebrating the gift of life together: Loving our neighbor, losing ourselves and then finding ourselves, having discovered that the Good News means that it is impossible not to feel joy in the presence of the Savior.

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)

September Birthdays



Dennis Rogers	9/4		
Kayla Patterson	9/5		
Anninette Wingrove	9/5		
Helen Bies	9/7		
Lorrie DeFrancesco	9/8		
Julie Roa	9/8	Mary McDowall	9/21
Cheryl Zybell	9/8	Heidi Maclean	9/22
Ruth Ann Hoy	9/9	Kathleen Olsen	9/24
Marlene Chinnici	9/11	Gertrude Korndoefer	9/25
Guy Peeters	9/12	Margret Raeder	9/26
Wayne Rasper	9/12	Beryl Clements	9/27
Madison Gould	9/13	Kendall White	9/27
Richard Mraz	9/16	Philip Bruden	9/29
Glenna Schantl	9/17	Jayson Martin	9/30
Joanne Manos	9/18	Raina McDannold	9/30
Nelly Herrera-Velez	9/20		
Alice Wells	9/20		

September Wedding Anniversaries

Gertrude & Alfred Korndoefer	9/2
Debra & Joseph LaFranca	9/4
Anninette & Charles Wingrove	9/5
Gail & Charlie Zboray	9/5
Roselind & Clyde Rosten	9/9
Charlotte & William Hamm	9/12
Pam & Dennis Rogers	9/17
Darlene & Patrick Gould	9/18
Stephanie & Giuseppe Mattei	9/19
JoAnne & James Stuck	9/21
Margaret & Dieter Steffens	9/26
Dorothy & Leonard Outhouse	9/30

