



Happenings at NLC

September 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



Upcoming Events

September 2 - Labor Day (*office closed*)

October 3 - Blessing of Animals

October 4 & 5 - Trinkets & Treasures
Sale

October 6 - World Communion Day

October 12 - New Member Class

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

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER: If you are interested in deepening your prayer life, Pr. Giuseppe will lead a new class on prayer on Tuesdays at 11:00AM starting on October 8 and ending on October 22, based on Martin Laird's "Into the Silent Land: A Guide to the Christian Practice of Contemplation." If you want to, you may purchase the book available on Amazon, and read it prior to the class. Pr. Giuseppe will provide a summary of the book.

ALTAR GUILD. Our next meeting is September 23, 2024, 10:00AM. 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 arrangement. For those people who have purchased bouquets, 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.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME - We have received our copies of the Oct/Nov/Dec issue of *Christ in Our Home*. If you would like a copy they are available in the narthex, or stop by the office between 9:00AM and 12PM. 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.

NLC'S SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE - If you are traveling or unable to attend in person but have internet access, you may follow the service by clicking on the link made available on our web site (nlcww.org) or via email on Saturday, or watch a recording of the service during the week. Conversely, you may 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 - September 8 through May 25. Children will start the worship service with their guardians, and will be dismissed at 9:45AM until communion time. Register by calling the church office (352-597-1456). Form are also available in the narthex. Any questions please call Noel Prettyman at 352-515-3345.

BIBLE STUDY EVERY SUNDAY - September 8 through May 25 at 11:00 AM. Age 12 and up. Themes of the Old Testament (Creation stories, God's Promises, God's faithfulness) not just for personal knowledge and curiosity but for spiritual growth and transformation.

SUNDAYS TOGETHER: 10 WEEKS TOGETHER IN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY.

A time to eat together, sing together, study the Bible together, and pray together.

When: 6-8pm Sunday evenings beginning Sept. 15, 2024, ending Dec. 15, 2024.

Where: Winemiller Hall, Nativity Lutheran Church

Leaders: Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgeson and others

Who should come:

- *Those who want to get to know others in the church better
- *Those who have never been to a Bible study (no judgment)
- *Those who want to learn more about the Bible

What you will learn:

- 1) How those who lived in the Middle East in Jesus' day would have understood the meaning of the Gospel stories,
- 2) What the Gospel stories mean for our lives today

****Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex if you intend to come. This is important in planning for food!**

UPCOMING OCTOBER EVENTS

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY - OCTOBER 6. 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). A procession of national flags kicks off the celebration of World Communion Sunday. Volunteers will be needed to carry the flags in the procession.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS - OCTOBER 3, 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

12PM - 4PM - Adopt-A-Pet

Bring your pet for a blessing. Invite your friends.

NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION CLASS - OCTOBER 12, 9A - 12N. If you are interested in membership, please contact the office to register. You will receive a packet to fill out for class. New members will be received on October 27.

OUTREACH

SEPTEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH - NATURE COAST HUMANE SOCIETY.

Founded in 1964, the Humane Society of the Nature Coast, Inc is a private, no time limit, non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue and health of orphaned, surrendered, and abandoned pets. All pets who reside at the shelter are spayed or neutered, have age-appropriate vaccines, and receive parasite prevention. Volunteers work every day to find alternatives to save lives and find forever homes for homeless pets.

Nativity Lutheran Church is going to offer a Blessing of the Animals on Thursday, October 3 at 11:00 AM at the shelter located at 7200 Mobley Rd Brooksville, FL 34601 (corner of Wiscon & Mobley). Anyone is welcome to attend and bring pets to receive a blessing on that. This will be our way to support the shelter and at the same time, let people know about Nativity. **In the meantime, we may collect the following items (at church or you may bring them when you come with your pet for the blessing):**

Purina One dry adult dog/cat and kitten/puppy dry food - Wet cat/kitten food and Wet dog/puppy food - Clumping cat litter - Dawn dish soap - Window cleaner - 13 and/or 33 gallon garbage bags - Laundry bleach/soap - Paper towels - Disposable gloves - Gallon size Ziplock bags - Manila file folders - Bath towels - Walmart gift cards

MEMBER UPDATES

New Address: **Lynn & Carl Roa**
13319 Cori Loop
Spring Hill, FL 34609

Dearly Departed: **Paul Chipko**
Condolence cards: Karen Chipko
7090 W. Lincolnshire Dr.
Homosassa, FL 34446

FREQUENT WORSHIPPERS

Dearly Departed: **David Farmer**
Condolence cards: Susan Nordstrom/Raina McDannold
6680 River Run Blvd.
Weeki Wachee, FL 34607

FOOD PANTRY TIDBITS

SHOPPING CART DONATION FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER IS:

15 oz. cans of carrots and peaches.

While we will gladly accept any and all donations, we are going to highlight a couple of items each month that could help out.

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 - SEPTEMBER 4th. All Women of Nativity are invited to join our bible study on September 4 at 9:45AM. For more information, please call Elva Posewitz at 352-584-9362.

2024 WOMEN OF THE ELCA FALL GATHERING – November 8-10, 2024 at Warren Willis Conference Center in Fruitland Park. Theme is “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands.” Registration deadline is September 5 and is available online at www.flwelca.com. For more information, please contact Ellen Lapinski at 773-556-4466.

DAYS FOR GIRLS - our next meeting will be TUESDAY, September 3th and 17th 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. For more information, contact Jill Helgeson at 352-410-0226.

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. Please come and join us. Questions? Call Jill Helgeson at 352-410-0226.

CARDS R US - After the summer off, Cards R Us will resume making cards in September. One day only, Monday, September 9, 10:00am to 12:30pm, in Winemiller Hall. Kids, we would love to have your cards, when you're ready to part with them. They are popular sellers. Nativity, we appreciate all the support we receive from you, because this allows us to donate proceeds to Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help those in need. Please shop our kiosks for your birthday, sympathy, get well, anniversary, wedding and holiday cards. Anyone who has thought about joining us in this fun endeavor, please come on and do it! For further information, call Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE - SEPT 21. Friendship Circle will enjoy Afternoon Tea at 1:30pm on Saturday, September 21, at The Tilted Teacup Tearoom and Boutique, 410 E. Liberty St., Brooksville 34601. If 10 or more of us are going, we will be having the afternoon tea, which includes an assortment of tea sandwiches, a mediterranean savory muffin, a fresh baked scone with devonshire cream, and a selection of desserts on a tier server, plus an unlimited hot tea service. Check out their website. Cost is \$26.50, plus a 20% service charge (tip), for a total of \$31.80. If there are fewer than 10 of us, we will order off the menu. The Tilted Teacup requires the menu items be ordered and paid for a week in advance. Please let Circle Leader Susan Nordstrom know by 1:00pm on Thursday, September 12, if you plan to attend. If we have a reservation for fewer than 10, you will be asked what you want ordered for you. Susan will be placing the order and paying for it on September 13 or 14, and you can reimburse her. Customers often wear hats, but they're optional; Amazon has a nice selection of fascinator headband tea party hats for \$3.99. If anyone other than a Friendship Circle member wishes to join us, please contact Susan Nordstrom at 352-428-1918. To carpool, meet at Nativity at 12:45pm.

SARAH CIRCLE, SEPTEMBER 19 @ 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, join Sarah Circle on the third Thursday of the month in the Youth Room 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.

TRINKETS & TREASURES – The sale dates are Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5 from 9am-12pm. Donations will be accepted during the following times:

Mondays from 9am-12pm (no donations on Monday, September 2 as it is Labor Day) and ending on Monday, September 17.

Tuesdays from 1pm-4pm and ending Tuesday, September 18.

With this event just one month away, we will need many volunteers to make it a success. Here is the information:

1. To set up shelving on Friday, Sept. 27 at 11am (need approximately 8 people)
2. To set up some tables on Sunday, Sept. 29 after coffee hour (need 4-6 people)

3. Empty containers with donations on Monday, Sept. 30 (8:30am)
4. To help set up and price items Monday, Sept. 30-Thursday, Oct. 3 (generally from 9am-1pm)
5. To work on the 2 sale dates (we need a few people to come at 7am on Friday, Oct. 4 to empty items from the container that we will be selling outside).
6. To help break down on Monday, Oct. 7 (9am).

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/POP-UP CANOPIES: 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. Also, if you have a pop-up canopy we can borrow for the sale, it would be greatly appreciated. It can be dropped off between 9am-12pm Monday, Sept. 30 - Thursday, Oct. 3.

If you have any questions, please contact Evelyn Galli at 516-909-3119 or Janet Jones at 352-232-1074.

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Nativity Fellowship:

Here we go starting our new season again. Here is all that is planned until our first meeting.

Mystery Dinner, Tuesday, September 17th.

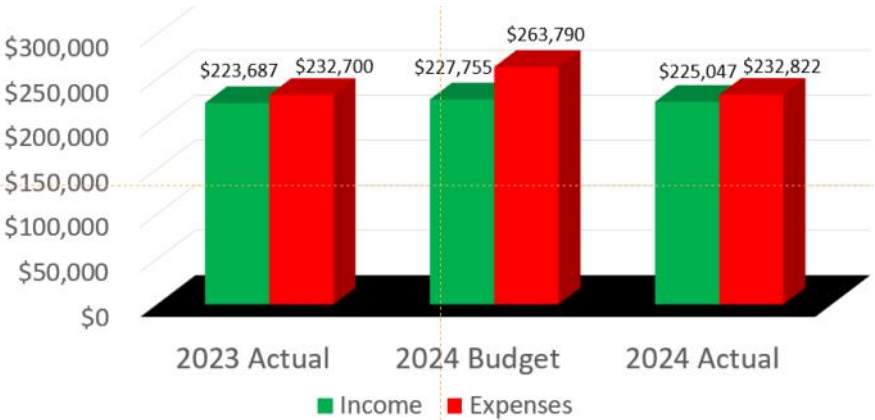
Remarkably we only have 10 spots left. I called the restaurant and asked if they could handle more than the original 50. So they added 10. If you are signed in you will come to church at 3:45pm for appetizers, then you will head out in a group car and head south to Pasco County. That is all you will know till you get in the car. I am so thrilled that we have so many. I do ask you if you know of restaurants that can handle this many please let me know. Our next one will be in January.

We would love to welcome more people to our committee, women and men. We meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:30am, so our first this season is September 10th. At this meeting we will start to plan the first part of the season, although we already know we will be offering a free brunch after the Christmas Cantata (date to be announced). We plan one event per month through May. Sooooo do come and join us.

~Patti Cotter

FROM NATIVITY'S FINANCIAL SECRETARY

JULY 2024



If you have any questions, please contact Scott Henkel at 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. 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.



A Crafty Christmas

How many of you have begun to plan for Christmas? (Good for You!) And So has Nativity Church!

Some of you may have heard that we are organizing an event called 'A *Crafty Christmas*'. This will be a community event sponsored by NLC and held here at our facilities - with vendors from all over the area selling handcrafted items. We will also have a variety of family activities, food and beverage sales and participation by Hernando County safety and service organizations, auction of baskets and other fun Christmas activities. All the money raised through vendor fees, food and beverage sales, auction and Christmas activities will be donated to charities within Hernando County. The designated areas are the handicapped, the aged and the homeless. Currently, we are in the process of selecting one organization in each category.

You know for an endeavor like this we need your help!

We have a variety of activities planned; including - Cookie Walk, Santa Room, Vendor Booths, Food & Beverage Sales, Sanctuary Tours, Auction of Baskets, Bloodmobile, Alzheimer's Trailer, Nativity Ambassadors, Music... and other Christmas activities.

You will see and hear this event advertised on social media, local and Christian radio, within local neighborhoods, and through printed magazines and flyers. We are currently advertising for vendors. We expect to have 45+ vendors selling handcrafted items.

Our goals for *A Crafty Christmas* are to provide a Christmas gift to the needy, emphasize the celebration of Christmas, provide an opportunity for crafters and artisans to earn money - and for us to build bonds with these people, enhance the recognition of NLC as an accepting and loving house of God, give the non-churched an opportunity to view and learn about our worship, provide the opportunity for us to meet and mingle with others and fellowship with each other.

I know Christmas seems a long way off – please start thinking of how you can be part of this exciting event. You can help by volunteering in the areas mentioned, you can help by posting flyers in your communities, stores, and restaurants, you can help by talking about *A Crafty Christmas* with your neighbors and friends, you can help by donating money, and everyone please help by praying that this event will bring honor to God and love to our community.

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 352-597-1456. THANK YOU!



October 26, 4PM-6PM

Nativity Church parking lot

USHERS NEEDED. We need 2 ushers for our 9:30AM service. There is a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in the narthex listing the Sunday service dates. Please sign up for whatever date(s) fits your schedule. Your time is greatly appreciated.

ACOLYTE AND CRUCIFER NEEDED. We are seeking individuals who would like to light the candles and/or carry the cross during our Sunday service. Please contact the office (352-597-1456) if you are interested. A short training is all that is needed. Your time is greatly appreciated.

GARDEN HELP WANTED. We need your help to maintain the gardens at the entrance of the administration building. Only light weeding & watering is needed. 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. Men, women, boys and girls, if you are able to operate your TV remote control and you have good hearing, you are a candidate to join the Audio Operators Team. 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.

During challenging times and times of joy, arts can bring healing and unity.

The Arts Adventure offers monthly engaging opportunities to people of all ages (teens through active adults) in our area. Activities will include visual arts, theater arts, music and more. Hands on activities will help stimulate the mind, get creativity flowing, and keep all ages moving and grooving.

Location: Holy Cross Lutheran Church (6193 Spring Hill Dr, Spring Hill)

Dates: Sundays - September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15

Time: 2-4pm

September Birthdays

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Gene Long | 9/1 |
| Anninette Wingrove | 9/5 |
| Mae Haines | 9/5 |
| Julie Roa | 9/8 |
| Ruth Ann Hoy | 9/9 |
| Gwen Mahon | 9/9 |
| Madison Gould | 9/13 |
| Gordon Lienau | 9/14 |
| Glenna Schantl | 9/17 |
| Joanne Manos | 9/18 |
| Alice Wells | 9/20 |
| Mary McDowall | 9/21 |
| Donna Long | 9/22 |



| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Frani Barnes | 9/24 |
| Beryl Clements | 9/27 |
| Kendall White | 9/27 |
| Raina McDannold | 9/30 |

September Wedding Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| Patricia & Jeff Werner | 9/3 |
| Debra & Joseph LaFranca | 9/4 |
| Anninette & Charles Wingrove | 9/5 |
| Roselind & Clyde Rosten | 9/9 |
| Darlene & Patrick Gould | 9/18 |
| Stephanie & Giuseppe Mattei | 9/19 |
| Dorothy & Leonard Outhouse | 9/30 |



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

MISSION STATEMENT

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

VISION STATEMENT

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)