

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4075 HOLLY DRIVE  
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL 33410

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**March, 2021**

*Sent with a prayer to:*



# THE NATIVITY



# Carol

Vol. 57 Issue 3 March 2021

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NEWSLETTER OF NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL  
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FLORIDA

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WORDS FROM

*Pastor Steve*

### ***A Season of Renewal***

Dear Nativity Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ! (2Cor.1:2)

By the time you get this Newsletter article, we will be a week into Lent. This is the time of the year wherein we are called to be all the more focused on the cross. Lent is the season of our renewal of the intent of our faith. Think of this season of the church as the springboard for the renewal of our faith beyond just this season. This Lent let us join together to explore individual and congregational renewal in light of the love God expressed for us on the cross. What does renewal look like for you?

Some of you may give something up you like, fasting from a pleasure. Some may engage in a practice that does not take away, but instead gives. As in, you engage in something that promotes life and love. Others may do a combination of both. The point is, in Lent we are called to a deeper intentionality of our faith; called to be more actively engaged. Seems kind of silly, when you think about it. Like the rest of the year for a Christian is a vacation from faith! Not hardly. The idea is, perhaps a new discipline of prayer, or fasting, or giving will lead to a deeper and wider faith.

So what discipline is right for you? Well there is only one way to find out...

PRAY!

Take everything to the Lord in prayer! Need a help getting started? Consider this opportunity...

**A Season of Renewal: A Video Devotion Series**

Beginning Monday 2/22 and continuing for the next 5 weeks, you will receive an email Monday through Friday with a link to the video devotion. I hope and pray you take this opportunity to join me in this exercise of faith renewal. If you don't receive church emails, call and let us know to add you 561-622-4998.

Seeking His Renewal,

Pastor Steve Winsor

**HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?**

As you can see by these photos, Nativity's garden grows with lots of love. Check out the size of the sunflowers in our playground.

The preschool kids were happy to help Julius and Linda Roehl, AKA Grandpa Strawhat and Grandma Linda to plant green beans and peas this past month.

While the kids are out playing, it is not unusual to see one of them pop a bright red cherry tomato into their mouth or snitch a green bean to munch on.

More photos page 19.



OUR *Staff*

Pastor: Pastor Steve Winsor  
swinsor73@gmail.com  
(727)542-0287

School Director: Pia Heiser  
pia@pbnativity.com

Office Manager: Kari Donnelly  
kari@pbnativity.com  
Cell: 676-7361

Music Director: John Shepherd  
jsmus19@aol.com  
Cell: 267-6542

Teachers: Dianne Seker, VPK & Extended Care  
Lauren Oliveri, PreK 2 & 3  
Theresa Saccone, Teacher Asst.  
Sarah Kasher, Teacher Asst.



**God's work...  
...Our hands**

OUR *Council*

President: Kelly Rogers  
267-1725  
kellyrogers379@aol.com

Vice-President: Mark Glazener  
561-204-2735  
glazeners@bellsouth.net

Treasurer: Carolyne New  
561-236-5401  
csnew1950@aol.com

Secretary: Breanne Johnsen  
561-972-7036  
Breannek.ot@gmail.com

Council Members at Large:  
Abby Moore  
214-354-4827  
abigailbmoore@gmail.com

Shonda Staudt  
561-358-2442  
cpateach13@gmail.com

OTHER CHURCH *Leaders*

Prayer Chain: Sandy McClellan  
alexandria.mcclellan@gmail.com

Women's Ministry: Ceil Thomas  
cjthomas@aol.com

# DAYS TO Celebrate

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

- |      |                    |      |                  |
|------|--------------------|------|------------------|
| 3/1  | Diana Johnson-Ford | 3/19 | Becky Mercer     |
| 3/2  | John Gunning       | 3/21 | Stuart McClellan |
| 3/3  | Mark Cirullo       | 3/22 | Abby Moore       |
| 3/4  | Natalie MacDonald  | 3/24 | Jacob Heiser     |
| 3/5  | Matthew Smith      | 3/31 | Doris Karlik     |
| 3/6  | Alexandra Gonzalez |      |                  |
| 3/7  | Ceil Thomas        |      |                  |
| 3/11 | John Johnsen       |      |                  |
| 3/13 | Lou Johnson        |      |                  |
| 3/16 | Paul Heiser        |      |                  |
| 3/18 | Sharon Speckmann   |      |                  |



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

- |      |                                 |
|------|---------------------------------|
| 3/7  | Harry & Beverly Eubanks         |
| 3/7  | David Willoughby & Becky Mercer |
| 3/14 | Julius & Linda Roehl            |

If you would like to share your birthday and/or anniversary with the church, please send your information to [kari@pbnativity.com](mailto:kari@pbnativity.com).

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
9:30 a.m. facebook

## LENT CONTINUES



### WORSHIP

You are invited to a service of *Reflection and Healing on Tuesday nights (Yes, Tuesday nights.) at 5:30PM* during the season of Lent. This service will be approximately one-half hour in length. Let us join together to soak in God's presence. Life's journey is marked by bumps and bruises both received and given. Allow this time and space on Tuesday nights to be an opportunity for you to reconcile whatever vexes and pains you. Inversely, let this be a time in which joy, gratitude and hope stakes a claim, and is exclaimed as well! Take a 30-minute timeout on Tuesdays during Lent to reflect on the power of the healing and ever-present Christ.

**5:30PM on the following Tuesdays, March 2, 9, 16 and 23.**  
Mark your calendar!

### SERVICE

During the weeks of Lent, we will be collecting food for the Lake Park Food Pantry at Bethlehem Baptist Church. *I wonder how much we can collect over 5 weeks? 500 lbs.? 1000 lbs.? 1500 lbs.?* Our goal is 2021 lbs. in 5 weeks. We can do it Nativity! Let's make 2021 a positive number no matter what!

### HOLY WEEK

Tuesday, March 30 No evening service.  
Thursday, April 1, 5:30pm Maundy Thursday worship.  
Friday, April 2, 12:30pm & 5:30pm Good Friday worship.  
Sunday, April 4, 7am Outdoor Sunrise Easter worship.  
Sunday, April 4, 9:30am & 11:00am Easter worship.  
Please RSVP 561-622-4998 or [kari@pbnativity.com](mailto:kari@pbnativity.com).

### MISSION INVESTMENT FUND LOAN

At the February Council Meeting, the Council voted to pay off the MIF Loan. Restricted Donations have been transferred to the Loan Principal outstanding, and the remaining balance (after that transfer) has been paid off. Our 10 year 5.25% MIF Loan has been paid off in 3 years and 4 months.

**Congratulations Nativity Congregation!!!**

# NATIVITY

*News*

## SANDWICH MAKING

Nativity has two opportunities a month to make sandwiches for the homeless and hungry.

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Sandwich Making is on again. Pickup kits on Friday March 12 between 1 & 2pm. Return sandwiches on Saturday, March 13 at 9:30am in front of Nativity." Please sign up for one of the six kits available at Signup genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D48ADAA22A2F94-sandwich>.

Our second opportunity for making sandwiches is onsite at Nativity on the third Monday of each month. We meet at 9:30am in the church reception area and prepare approximately 450 sandwiches to be delivered to St. George's in Riviera Beach. If you would like to join the sandwich making at the church on 3/15 at 9:30am, please call Nancy Steffen at 561-281-4353 or [nancysteffen7@gmail.com](mailto:nancysteffen7@gmail.com). Plastic gloves will be provided and please wear your mask.

Thank you to all February 2nd Saturday sandwich makers: Julius & Linda Roehl, Karyn & Lois Howerton, Andrew & Nadene Watson, Dylan, Caitlin & Nancy Morrissey, Jim Kreidler and daughter Lauren and Jim &Carolyn New.

Thank you to the 3rd Monday sandwich makers: John & Nancy Steffen, Pastor Steve Winsor, Brian & Kari Donnelly, Pat Barnes, Kathy Brockelbank and David Hoecker.

## "SOUPER BOWL" RESULTS

It's a win! \$1,197 was raised during our "Souper Bowl" competition on February 7 to go towards feeding the hungry. Our final tally was Angels- \$599 and Saints-\$598. Thank you to Ernadel for organizing, Emma-Jade and Dexter for serving, those that provided yummy soups and those that donated.

## YOUTH GROUP

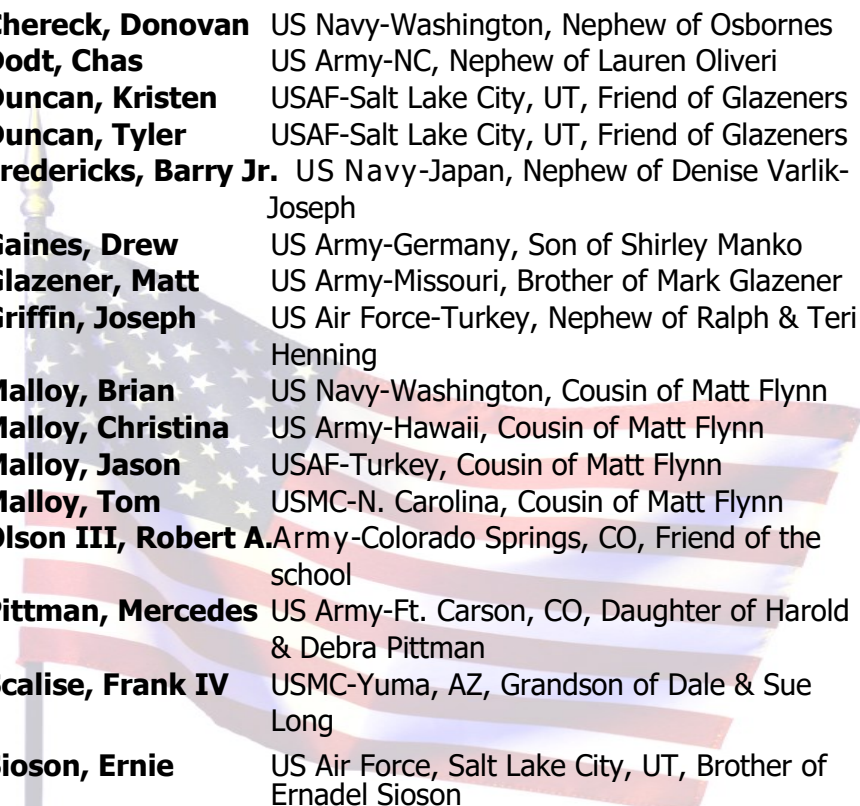
Nativity youth meet March 7th and 28th at 6:30 p.m. at the church. Bring a friend and wear your mask.

## IN SYMPATHY

Nativity friend, Les Gorenflo passed in his sleep February 10th, 2021.

# REMEMBERING THOSE WHO

*Serve*

- 
- Chereck, Donovan** US Navy-Washington, Nephew of Osbornes
  - Dodt, Chas** US Army-NC, Nephew of Lauren Oliveri
  - Duncan, Kristen** USAF-Salt Lake City, UT, Friend of Glazeners
  - Duncan, Tyler** USAF-Salt Lake City, UT, Friend of Glazeners
  - Fredericks, Barry Jr.** US Navy-Japan, Nephew of Denise Varlik-Joseph
  - Gaines, Drew** US Army-Germany, Son of Shirley Manko
  - Glazener, Matt** US Army-Missouri, Brother of Mark Glazener
  - Griffin, Joseph** US Air Force-Turkey, Nephew of Ralph & Teri Henning
  - Malloy, Brian** US Navy-Washington, Cousin of Matt Flynn
  - Malloy, Christina** US Army-Hawaii, Cousin of Matt Flynn
  - Malloy, Jason** USAF-Turkey, Cousin of Matt Flynn
  - Malloy, Tom** USMC-N. Carolina, Cousin of Matt Flynn
  - Olson III, Robert A.** Army-Colorado Springs, CO, Friend of the school
  - Pittman, Mercedes** US Army-Ft. Carson, CO, Daughter of Harold & Debra Pittman
  - Scalise, Frank IV** USMC-Yuma, AZ, Grandson of Dale & Sue Long
  - Sioson, Ernie** US Air Force, Salt Lake City, UT, Brother of Ernadel Sioson

## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent members please remember to direct your Choice Dollars. They can be directed towards a charity or church of your choice.

## NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

4075 Holly Drive  
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410  
(561) 622-4998 or (561) 626-6652  
[nativity@pbnativity.com](mailto:nativity@pbnativity.com)  
[www.nativitylutheranpbg.com](http://www.nativitylutheranpbg.com)



These lilies will be used to decorate the sanctuary Easter morning. Please pick up your lilies after the service and take home to enjoy or share with someone.

Or in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Item: Easter Lily	Cost: \$15.00 each	Total cost: _____
Lilies ordered: _____		

Order deadline: Sunday, March 28. Return form & cash or check (indicate on bottom of check "Easter Lily" to office or place in offering plate on Sunday mornings.

## Easter Lily Order Form

# March 2021

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>7</b> 9:30a Worship Lent 3 9:30a Facebook live 6:30p Youth	<b>8</b> 9:30a Women's Love Circle 10:30a Staff mtg. 6:30p Council Mtg.	<b>9</b> 5:30p Reflection & Healing Service	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 1p Sandwich making pick up kits	<b>13</b> 9:30a sandwich drop off
	<b>14</b> 9:30a Worship Lent 4 9:30a Facebook live	<b>15</b> 9:30a Sandwich Making	<b>16</b> 5:30p Reflection & Healing Service	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
	<b>21</b> 9:30a Worship Lent 5 9:30a Facebook live	<b>22</b> No School	<b>23</b> 5:30p Reflection & Healing Service	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
	<b>28</b> 9:30a Worship Palm Sunday 9:30a Facebook live 6:30p Youth	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Preschool picture day			

## UPCOMING WORSHIP READINGS & HYMNS

**We are meeting in person!** Nativity has onsite Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. Please be sure to contact the church office at 561-622-4998 or kari@pbnativity.com to reserve a spot in church before 3pm on each Friday. We are social distancing and that means we have limited seating.

"Live" services can also be found on Nativity Lutheran Church and School's facebook page at 9:30 a.m. Videos of Sunday services will be available within 24 hours on pbnativity.com and anytime after the 9:30 service on facebook.

**Sunday, March 7  
9:30 AM Online  
Hymn #772**

### "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways  
to keep his statutes still!  
Oh, that my God would grant me grace  
to know and do his will!
- 2 Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere;  
let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.
- 3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep;  
and should I e'er forget your way,  
restore your wand'ring sheep.
- 4 Make me to walk in your commands, 'tis a delightful road;  
nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God.

### Psalm 119:167-176

<sup>167</sup>My soul keeps your decrees; I love them exceedingly. <sup>168</sup>I keep your precepts and decrees, for all my ways are before you. <sup>169</sup>Let my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word. <sup>170</sup>Let my supplication come before you; deliver me according to your promise. <sup>171</sup>My lips will pour forth praise, because you teach me your statutes. <sup>172</sup>My tongue will sing of your promise, for all your commandments are right. <sup>173</sup>Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts. <sup>174</sup>I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight. <sup>175</sup>Let me live that I may praise you, and let your ordinances help me. <sup>176</sup>I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek out your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

## NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL TREASURER'S REPORT - JANUARY 2021

### BALANCE SHEET RECAP OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTS

		<u>Assets:</u>	
\$	65,990	Operating Cash	
	30,895	MIF ( Demand Checking)	
\$	<u>96,885</u>	Total Operating Cash	
		<u>Liability:</u>	
\$	<u>13,523</u>	Mission Investment Fund Loan	
		<u>Restricted Fund Balances:</u>	
\$	4,851	Capital Fund	
	312	Here, Near, Far Children	
	2,218	Memorial Fund	
	300	MIF Principal Paydown	
	979	Morrissey Fund	
	461	Technology	
	2,300	Preschool-Continuing Ed	
	1,950	Youth Fund	
\$	<u>13,370</u>		

### JANUARY 2021 CASH FLOW

CASH BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2020	\$	91,921
BALANCE SHEET ACTIVITY		
MIF Loan Principal	(471)	(471)
RESULTS OF OPERATION		
CHURCH	4,820	
SCHOOL	615	
	<u>5,435</u>	<u>5,435</u>
CASH BALANCE AT JANUARY 31, 2021	\$	<u>96,885</u>

# NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

## JANUARY 2021

### CHURCH

	JANUARY ACTUAL	JANUARY BUDGET	JANUARY VARIANCE
<u>REVENUES</u>			
Tithes & Offerings	23,138.00	14,000.00	9,138.00
Building Use	1,750.00	2,000.00	(250.00)
Other Revenues	217.99	719.83	(501.84)
	<u>25,105.99</u>	<u>16,719.83</u>	<u>8,386.16</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Payroll Costs	(10,588.15)	(10,964.97)	376.82
Other Expenses	(9,698.14)	(7,671.25)	(2,026.89)
	<u>(20,286.29)</u>	<u>(18,636.22)</u>	<u>(1,650.07)</u>
NET REV (EXP)	<u>4,819.70</u>	<u>(1,916.39)</u>	<u>6,736.09</u>

### SCHOOL

	JANUARY ACTUAL	JANUARY BUDGET	JANUARY VARIANCE
<u>REVENUES</u>			
Tuition Revenue	11,698.67	11,195.00	503.67
Other Revenues	720.00	1,161.00	(441.00)
	<u>12,418.67</u>	<u>12,356.00</u>	<u>62.67</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Payroll Costs	(10,095.05)	(10,075.96)	(19.09)
Other Expenses	(1,708.54)	(1,922.60)	214.06
	<u>(11,803.59)</u>	<u>(11,998.56)</u>	<u>194.97</u>
NET REV (EXP)	<u>615.08</u>	<u>357.44</u>	<u>257.64</u>

### COMBINED CHURCH & SCHOOL

	JANUARY ACTUAL	JANUARY BUDGET	JANUARY VARIANCE
REVENUES	37,524.66	29,075.83	8,448.83
EXPENSES	<u>(32,089.88)</u>	<u>(30,634.78)</u>	<u>(1,455.10)</u>
NET REV (EXP)	<u>5,434.78</u>	<u>(1,558.95)</u>	<u>6,993.73</u>

## Luke 15:1-32

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. <sup>8</sup>Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." <sup>11</sup>Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe — the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup>Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with

him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

**Hymn #779**  
**"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"**

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.
- 4 The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

**APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

are for sale in the family room for \$5 each. Proceed to go toward another round of blessing bags.

Employee Reviews: Monday 2/15 with Breanne.

Constitution Changes: Awaiting the return of the final edit from the synod office.

Nativity Land Sale Debriefing with Chip Armstrong: FLF backed out of the deal primarily because we wanted them to pay for the demo and construction of the southern parking lot. If we are to relist the property, Chip suggested a price of \$2.75 million. Recent zoning changes by PBG are advantageous for us, Chip has offered to set up a meeting with someone from zoning to give us insight.

Pastor Steve has met with Pastor Tim Smiley of Trinity United Methodist. Trinity is in negotiations with Christ Fellowship to sell their property. There will be a remnant congregation from Trinity that is looking for a place to meet while they discern their future plans. Pastor Tim believes this will be necessary in Spring/Summer 2021. Pastor Steve would like us to consider.

At the request of council, Pastor Steve is to reach out to ACC to follow up on their status now that the FLF deal has ended. Lent Food Collection: Nativity has been challenged to collect 2021 lbs of food items for the Lake Park Food Pantry. Palm Sunday, Harry Drier will give a temple talk. Youth will sort, bag, weigh the collection before delivery to the food pantry.

Pastor Steve would like to have the preschool be a sponsor for the soccer team he is coaching. He would use his discretionary funds.

Pastor Steve asked about records retention- how long should things like bulletins be kept? Kelly suggested that we digitize (scan) and then we can toss out paper copies. Council also suggested that we ask member(s) of the congregation to act as historian(s) and assist with this process.

Pastor Steve and Mark Glazener to address updating the membership roll.

Office Manager: Written report submitted by Kari Donnelly. No report this month.

Next Council Meeting Monday March 8, 2021 at 6:30 PM

Adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Breanne Johnsen

Council Secretary



# MINUTES FROM



## PENDING APPROVAL

Nativity Lutheran Church Council Meeting  
Monday February 8, 2021

Present: Pastor Steve Winsor, Kelly Rogers, Carolyne New, Breanne Johnsen, Shonda Staudt, Mark Glazener, Abby Moore.

Absent and Excused: None

Council Guests: Pia Heiser

Council Meeting Minutes from January 2021 reviewed by council.  
Motion to approve, seconded, approved on voice vote.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Steve Winsor

Preschool Report: Pia presented her January 2021 Preschool Report.  
January revenues: \$12,259. AR on 1/31/21: \$800.

Preschool Board met 1/5/21, and on 2/4/21. 1/5/21 minutes have been submitted to council. In January, 6 families toured the preschool, 2 have signed up for fall and are considering summer camp 2021.

All pre-k children that can move to VPK in the fall have committed to doing so.

Pia also presented the recent assessments of the VPK students, these results have been individually shared with the parents of the students.

In January, an in depth playground inspection was conducted and items needing attention have either been addressed or are in progress.

At the conclusion of her report, Pia departed the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Carolyne completed the PPP application and it was approved and funded at \$58,100. Carolyne recommends that at this time, council pay off the MIF loan. Motion to pay the MIF loan in full. Seconded and approved on voice vote.

January numbers were pending at the time of the meeting.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Steve Winsor

January worship attendance: 71.

Technology grant: Pastor Steve needs help getting the new equipment implemented, up and running. Need a dedicated volunteer to run the system.

MS/HS Youth: made 50 blessing bags with Thrivent Action dollars, Bags

### Hymn #807

#### "Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing"

- 1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

### Sunday, March 14 9:30 AM Online

#### Hymn #532, verses 1, 3 & 4 "Gather Us In"

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
- 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away—  
here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever,  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

### Psalm 41:1-3

<sup>1</sup>Happy are those who consider the poor; the LORD delivers them in the day of trouble. <sup>2</sup>The LORD protects them and keeps them alive; they are called happy in the land. You do not give them up to the will of their enemies. <sup>3</sup>The LORD sustains them on their sickbed; in their illness you heal all their infirmities.

### Luke 16:19-31

<sup>19</sup>There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup>He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup>Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' <sup>27</sup>He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house — <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers — that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup>Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' <sup>30</sup>He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup>He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

### Hymn #509

#### "God's Word Is Our Great Heritage"

God's word is our great heritage and shall be ours forever;  
to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief endeavor.  
Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay.  
Lord, grant while time shall last your church may hold it fast  
throughout all generations.

### CUDDLE UP WITH A GOOD BOOK

Cowboys by Lucille Recht Penner

I Want to Be a Cowboy by Dan Liebman

Rodeo Day by Jonelle Toriseva and Robert Casilla

A Desert Habitat by Kelley MacAulay and Bobbie Kalman

Creatures of the Desert World by Barbara Gibson

My Cowboy Boots by Crystal Bowman and Merdith Johnson

The Desert Alphabet Book by Jerry Palotta and Mark Astrella

### FAMILY ACTIVITIES "DESERT ADVENTURES"

Check out local dunes, beaches or sandy areas. Try to find patterns in the sand caused by wind and water. Is the sand you found dry or wet? Search for signs of life such as plants and animals. Visit a horse farm and experience the wonder of horse riding together. End the family night with stories and songs by your own campfire.

### I AM A COWBOY

Sing to the tune "I'm a Little Teapot" and ask your child to choose where to pretend to ride, for example "rodeo" or "desert", and insert it in the song as you pretend to ride a horse together.

*I am a cowboy, I love to ride, hat on my head, rope on my side.  
In the rodeo, my horse is best,*

*"Yeehaw!" We yell with all the rest.*

### NATIVITY'S GARDEN

Our Preschool students love to help Grandpa Strawhat and Grandma Linda work in the garden. This month they planted peas and green beans. More photos on page 2.



## THIS MONTH'S THEME IS "DESERT DISCOVERY"

Pull up your boots, put on your cowboy hat and head to the Mother Goose Time Rodeo! After practicing your rope skills, wander out into the dunes of the Sahara Desert. Explore the Mojave Desert while riding your bumpy burro. Sit for a while in the shade of a cactus, but be careful not to fall asleep because the desert comes to life at night.

### CONFIDENCE BUILDING

To help your child learn and grow they need to feel safe, secure and connected to their learning environment. A child that feels comfortable and secure is more willing to risk failure during the learning process.

Here are some key ideas to help your child build confidence:

- **Smile, laugh and express yourself often.** Modeling positive expressions will "allow" your child to feel free to express themselves.
- **Take time to be involved in the activities** as much as you expect your child to be involved in them. They will develop an appreciation for effort, perseverance, and dedication.
- **Have open conversations that are personal and casual.** Encourage them to share their likes, dislikes, and opinions without judgment. Find out and follow their interests.
- **Offer positive non-verbal communication** whenever possible (high fives, hugs, kisses, etc.).
- **Offer support without doing it all for your child.** Give just enough help to make sure your child feels successful, or alleviate their frustration, but leave enough room for your child to continue to learn and eventually celebrate the accomplishment.

When you foster a caring climate you open up a world of safe learning for your child. This is a wonderful tool to encourage them to take risks, which ultimately fosters a joy and love for discovery and learning.

### THIS MONTH'S FEATURED CONCEPTS

Letters: Ww (watermelon, water and wolf), Zz (zipper, zero and zebra) and Nn (nest, net and nut)

Shape: Star

Numbers: 13 and 14

Color: Black

Character Trait: Honest



### Hymn #661

#### "I Love to Tell the Story"

- 1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

#### *Refrain*

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

- 2 I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God's own holy word. *Refrain*
- 3 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

**Sunday, March 21**

**9:30 AM Online**

### Hymn #345, verses 1, 2 & 4

#### "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now"

- 1 Jesus, I will ponder now on your holy passion;  
let your Spirit now endow me for meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith may the image cherish  
of your suffering, pain, and death, that I may not perish.
- 2 Make me see your great distress, anguish, and affliction,  
bonds and blows and wretchedness and your crucifixion;  
make me see how scourge and rod,  
spear and nails, did wound you,  
how you died for those, O God,  
who with thorns had crowned you.
- 4 Let me view your pain and loss with repentant grieving,  
nor prepare again your cross by unholy living.  
May I give you love for love! Hear me, O my Savior,  
that I may in heav'n above sing your praise forever.

### Psalm 84:1-4, 10-12

<sup>1</sup>How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! <sup>2</sup>My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh



sing for joy to the living God. <sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God. <sup>4</sup>Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. Selah <sup>10</sup>For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness. <sup>11</sup>For the Lord GOD is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the LORD withhold from those who walk uprightly. <sup>12</sup>O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

### Luke 18:31—19:10

<sup>31</sup>Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. <sup>32</sup>For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. <sup>33</sup>After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again." <sup>34</sup>But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said. <sup>35</sup>As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>36</sup>When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. <sup>37</sup>They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." <sup>38</sup>Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>39</sup>Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>40</sup>Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, <sup>41</sup>"What do you want me to do for you? He said, "Lord, let me see again." <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." <sup>43</sup>Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

<sup>1</sup>He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup>A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup>He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup>So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup>When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup>So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup>All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." <sup>8</sup>Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." <sup>9</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup>For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

## Engineers solve problems

"How can I build a bird's nest?"  
"What could I use to make a crown?"  
At its heart, engineering is all about solving problems. Encourage your child to think like an engineer with these ideas.

**Read, then build.** Let your youngster use household materials to create items inspired by books. After reading about birds, she could build a nest out of craft



sticks and tape. What other materials will help her hold the nest together? Or if she reads a fairy tale, she might make a crown like kings and queens wear, using cardboard and tape—how can she keep it from falling off her head?

**Create playthings.** Suggest that your child design her own versions of toys and games. Maybe she'll engineer a boat that will float. Or perhaps she'll set up a miniature golf course with pool noodles. How could she arrange them so a ball bounces off and goes into a hole?♥

### Q & A Ways to handle frustration

**Q:** Our daughter gets upset easily. Yesterday she burst into tears because she couldn't cross the monkey bars. What can I do to help her?

**A:** Some children are extra-sensitive at times. The upside is that sensitive youngsters tend to show empathy for others. But they may also become frustrated easily.



When your child gets upset (say, when her drawing doesn't come out the way she wanted), ask, "What could you do now?" (Get a new piece of paper and start again.) Also, try to praise her when she soothes herself without getting upset: "You worked really hard to put your train track back together."

Finally, acknowledge your youngster's frustration: "I know you're disappointed that you got paint on your new shirt. Let's go wash it."♥

**OUR PURPOSE**

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### PARENT TO PARENT Raising kids who love the outdoors

Our family spent a lot of time outside over the past year as we looked for ways to get out of the house and stay safe. It has been wonderful to see our son Milo develop a love of the outdoors.

In the fall, we camped in the backyard. We showed Milo how we pitch a tent and let him put the stakes in the ground. He watched while I started a campfire, and my husband helped him cook a hot dog over the flames. And we all enjoyed listening to nighttime nature sounds as we fell asleep.

This winter, we explored local nature trails. To keep Milo interested longer, we taught him to skip rocks across a stream and gave him specific things to spot, like red berries. And now that spring is coming, we plan to hike in the mountains. Milo is excited to pack his backpack with his water bottle and a snack—and use binoculars for the first time.♥



### ACTIVITY CORNER The survey says ...

Taking a family survey is a fun way for your little one to practice writing and math while connecting with relatives. Here's how.

**1. Pick a question.** Encourage your child to think of a question for you to write at the top of a sheet of paper. ("What is your favorite season?") He could help by writing letters or words he knows.

**2. Set up a graph.** Have your youngster draw lines to divide the paper into four columns, each labeled with a season.



**3. Call relatives.** Your child can ask each person his question. To make a picture graph, he will draw symbols representing their answers in the correct columns. Examples: snowflakes in the winter column, flowers for spring, suns for summer, leaves for fall.

**4. Share results.** When your youngster has all his data, help him mail copies of his graph to relatives. Or he might have a call or video chat to share his findings—and reveal which season is his family's favorite!♥



# Early Years

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREAT START

March 2021



Nativity Lutheran Church & School

Pia Heiser, Director

**KID BITS**

## Tic-tac-ABCs

Play this twist on tic-tac-toe. Instead of choosing X or O, each person picks a different letter to use. Before writing your letter on the game board, you must find an object that starts with that letter. If your youngster's letter is *m*, she might spot a *mat*.  
Tip: Use letters your child tends to confuse, perhaps *b* and *d*.

## Join the club

Do you have ideas for making your child's school a better place for him to learn and play? A parent-teacher group (PTA, PTO, steering committee) lets you share your thoughts and support the school. Watch newsletters or the school website for meeting dates, and plan to attend or log in.

## If vs. when

Changing just a few words may make your youngster more likely to cooperate without a fuss. Rather than saying, "If you pick up your toys, we'll play a game," try, "When you pick up your toys, we'll have room to play a game." You'll give her a logical reason to cooperate.

## Worth quoting

"Anyone who does anything to help a child is a hero to me." *Fred Rogers*

## Just for fun

**Q:** Why do flamingos lift one leg?

**A:** Because if they lifted both, they'd fall down.



## Citizenship at home

When your child shares, works with others, or helps to make decisions at home, he's being a good citizen. Consider these suggestions to teach him about citizenship.

### Share property

Take turns naming items in your house that your family shares. Your youngster might say the couch, board games, and the TV. Then, talk about how life would be different if you didn't share those things. For instance, it's no fun to play a board game by yourself! Now can your child name things everyone in your community shares? He may think of library books, playgrounds, schools, and streets.

### Do your part

Show your youngster that big jobs are easier—and more fun—when everyone helps out. Pick a project, like cleaning out the garage or doing yard work and give each family member a task. He might organize outdoor toys while you put away tools. *Idea:* Take a walk to look for people working



together. He might see construction workers building a house or delivery people unloading packages.

### Cast a vote

Should you have tacos or pasta for dinner? Which movie will your family watch this weekend? Take a vote so your child sees how group decisions are made. He could set up a "voting booth" by covering an empty tissue box with wrapping paper and putting a pencil and slips of paper beside it. Have him count the votes and announce the winner. ("Taco night won by 1 vote!") ♥

## Follow their lead

Letting your youngster take the lead while you play a supporting role can boost her learning. Try these strategies:

- Set out learning supplies like Scrabble tiles or colorful beads. Then, let your child decide what to do with them. Perhaps she'll spell her name with the tiles. Or maybe she will count the beads, sort them by color, or arrange them into a rainbow.

- Maximize learning by encouraging your youngster to explain what she's doing. You might ask, "Which letters did you use to spell your name?" or "Which color bead do you have the most of?" ♥



## Hymn #325

### "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

- 1 I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;  
all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me; in my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
when my heart is almost breaking,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
- 3 When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
when I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
when my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

## Hymn #343, verses 1, 2 & 6

### "My Song Is Love Unknown"

- 1 My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I that for my sake  
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
- 2 He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow;  
the world that was his own would not its Savior know.  
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed,  
who at my need his life did spend!
- 6 Here might I stay and sing— no story so divine!  
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
I all my days could gladly spend!

**Sunday, March 28, Palm Sunday**

**9:30 AM Online**

## Hymn #344, verses 1, 3 & 5

### "All Glory, Laud and Honor"

#### Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor to you, redeemer, king,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

- 1 You are the king of Israel and David's royal Son,  
now in the Lord's name coming, our King and Blessed One.  
*Refrain*

3 The multitude of pilgrims with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.  
*Refrain*

5 Their praises you accepted; accept the prayers we bring,  
great author of all goodness, O good and gracious King.  
*Refrain*

### **Psalm 118:19-23**

<sup>19</sup>Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. <sup>20</sup>This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. <sup>21</sup>I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. <sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. <sup>23</sup>This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

### **Luke 19:29-44**

<sup>29</sup>When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup>saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup>If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" <sup>32</sup>So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. <sup>33</sup>As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" <sup>34</sup>They said, "The Lord needs it." <sup>35</sup>Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup>As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup>As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, <sup>38</sup>saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" <sup>39</sup>Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." <sup>40</sup>He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." <sup>41</sup>As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, <sup>42</sup>saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup>Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. <sup>44</sup>They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."

### **Hymn #430, verses 2 & 3**

#### **"Rejoice, for Christ Is King!"**

2 Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.

*Refrain*

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

3 His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;  
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n: *Refrain*

### **Hymn #336**

#### **"Lamb of God"**

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your  
side to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

*Refrain*

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.  
Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb  
of God.

Your gift of love we crucified. We laughed and scorned him as he  
died. The humble king we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb  
of God.

*Refrain*

I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to  
your side to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb  
of God.

*Refrain*

***Thank you to all for your continued support!***