

THE NATIVITY

Carol



Vol. 61 Issue 4 April 2024

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

WORDS FROM

Pastor Steve

I am writing the newsletter devotion on April Fools' Day; this year it falls on the day after Easter Sunday. There seems to be a good bit of irony in them being so close together, right? In the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, a combination of angels, earthquakes and unidentified "young men" in the empty prompt fear and confusion. On the other hand, John's resurrection begins with deceit.

In the book of John, Mary Magdalene arrives at empty tomb. Jesus is gone. This greatly stresses her. She tells Peter that someone has taken their Lord from the tomb. It is day three, and she has forgotten about the promise of the resurrection. She is living in the moment because of fear, not hope realized. The hope attached to the promise of the resurrection is lost on Mary that first Easter morning. Jesus rising from the dead, God boldly claiming that all forms of sin and death are defeated, was displaced that morning. The empty tomb manifested itself as loss not promise. The empty tomb led her to think worldly, logically, not heavenly or divinely. Her eyes deceived her. Mary was tricked, but not entirely fooled. Mary would not be fooled for long, because the resurrected Lord opened her eyes to see him in calling her by name.

On this day after Easter, my prayer for you is that you look for evidence of the resurrected Lord daily. When you encounter the things that are empty of God, that you are not deceived/tricked into believing that God is absent. On the contrary, God is everywhere, and present in all things.

My siblings in Christ, do not let the worldly logic fool you into thinking that the God of all there is, seen and unseen, the Creator of the Big Bang, the universe, the dinosaurs, the birds and bees, the air and trees, medicine, joy, laughter, curiosity, and healing, etc....is just luck, or coincidence. It is not. It is divine design. And if God can orchestrate and oversee all the aforementioned, then how could it possibly be that Jesus, the Son of God could not rise from the dead? How could it not be a part of God's arsenal of creative love?

Do not be fooled, evidence of the risen Lord is everywhere. In your seeking, you will be met. And when you are, in knowing him, you will know more about your capacity to share the power of the resurrection with others. Go forward in life knowing that God does not play tricks when it comes to revealing God's self to you. Do not be fooled by this world. Your God is here, there and everywhere, alive and well. That's a promise. God will never play you for a fool. That is a promise as well. Amen.

ACT, LOVE, WALK

We bought a box truck! From this truck, Nativity will deliver food and feed the Good News to God's people. Want to be a part of this new ministry? Contact Mike Moore at mtmoore1313@gmail.com.

During children's chapel, the preschool kids and teachers helped to load the truck with food that you all donated. Then with all their hands on the truck, they join Pastor in a prayer to bless the truck and the food going to those in need.



Project Act Love Walk committee member and Jupiter High School junior Joseph Moore and Program Director Mike Moore work on cleaning the Nativity's mobile ministry truck.





Project Act Love Walk Program Director Mike Moore, and committee members Lakesa Ferguson and Carole Rajan (right to left) view the space that will be converted into the food pantry and staging area for food donations to be used in the mobile ministry.

Carole Rajan and Mike Moore make plans to clean and outfit the space that will be converted into the food pantry and staging area for the Project Act Love Walk mobile ministry.



Committee members Shonda Staudt and Lakesa Ferguson join Program Director Mike Moore to clean the interior of the truck's shelving and floors, and plan modifications to the interior.

Mike Moore and committee member Lakesa Ferguson are ensuring that the shelves are clean and ready for loading with food to deliver to the community.



Lakesa Ferguson, Carole Rajan and Shonda Staudt (left to right) plan the content of the social justice pamphlets to provide to local people in need of information on key social services.



Shown here is a sample of a notecard that can be used for words of encouragement to be shared by Nativity with recipients of services from the Project.



MORE *News*

MOM'S GROUP

All moms are invited to meet other moms on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month after worship. This is a time to pray, talk and share about what it's like to parent in today's world. Grab a cup of coffee from the living room after worship and join us in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend!

ACT, LOVE, WALK

Act-Love-Walk is the new mission outreach of Nativity. In December, Nativity was granted \$35,000 to begin the implementation of a mobile outreach ministry. With your help, we will worship, feed, educate and create community from our mobile unit. Please be in prayer about how you can be of service to this service to our community. For more information on how to connect with this ministry contact Act Love Walk's ministry manager Michael Moore at mtmoore1313@gmail.com

BIBLE, BAGELS AND BREW BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study on Tuesday from 9:30-10:30. A time of faith, fellowship and the preaching text for the coming Sunday. Everyone is welcome.

SANDWICH MAKING

2nd Saturday Take Home Sandwich Making is April 13th. Pick up kits to assemble 50 sandwiches for the homeless on Friday the 12th between 1 & 4pm. Return sandwiches on Saturday, the 13th at 9:00am in front of Nativity for delivery. Please sign up for one of the six kits available at Signup genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040549A4A72BA7F94-46859274-2ndsaturday>

This is a new link. Please be sure to use this sign up and not any previous link you may have.

You may sign up early for upcoming months.

Thank you March's 2nd Saturday sandwich makers: Kelly, Sara and Christopher Hoekstra, Linda, Max and West Roehl, Gloria and Dennis Jackson, Dylan Atkins (2 kits!) and Theresa and Frank Saccone. Thank you to Linda for shopping and delivering.

WOMEN'S LOVE CIRCLE

The next meeting for Love Circle will be on April 8th at 9:30 in the family room. Mark your calendars and plan to join us. The Bible study will discuss how food is important in the Bible.

THIRD MONDAY SANDWICH MAKING

Our onsite sandwich making ministry will be Monday, April 15th at 9:00am in the church reception area where we will prepare approximately 400 sandwiches to be delivered for the homeless and hungry. Please join us if you have an hour to spare. Plastic gloves will be provided.

Thank you to March sandwich makers: Ceil Thomas, Tom Kuhn, Mara Winsor, Hedy Rossmeissl and grandkids Charly and Paul, Stan & Mary Ann Spech, Charlie & Nancy Biesers and Nativity neighbors: Natalie and son Blake and Marsh McKeich. Also thank you to John & Nancy Steffen for shopping and Pastor Steve for delivering the finished sandwiches to St. George's. The event was funded by Thrivent.

THANK YOU

A super thank you to Mike Moore for making a delicious breakfast that he served here on Easter Sunday. Thank you Lakesa Ferguson and Shonda Stuardt for organizing and running the breakfast and Easter egg hunt. Thank you also to all the helpers that worked on the breakfast, hunt, gift bags and cookie boxes that were delivered to our homebound members.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

If you would like to help keep our feeding ministries alive, please write check to Nativity and write in memo line either sandwich making or Act, Love, Walk.

Contrast Duo is one of the most exciting ensembles in the classical music scene in the U.S. They are the 1st Prize Winners of the Liszt International Competition and they are the only recipients of the Chamber Music degree at Lynn Conservatory. They have appeared in concerts throughout Europe, Russia, the United States, and Asia. Darren and Yasa are passionate about the importance of high quality education and music as a form of spiritual act.

Nativity Lutheran
Church & Preschool

presents

SPRING
CONCERT



Yasa Poletaeva
VIOLIN
Darren Matias
PIANO

Date: April 21 at 2 pm

Address: 4075 Holly Dr, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

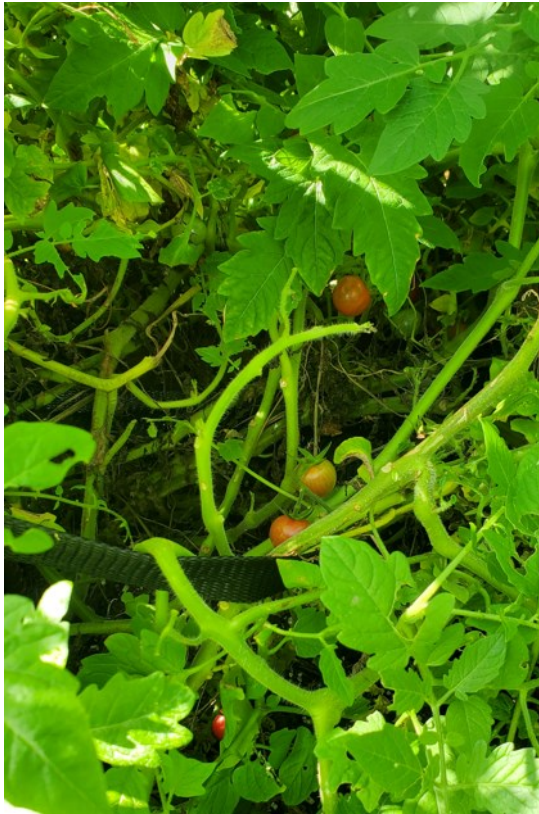
Our preschoolers learned about Constellations today ... Ms . Shonda brought toothpicks and mini marshmallows... some ate their constellation 🍪



With Ms. Shonda's help, the students built a spaceship and blasted into space to see all the planets.

THANK YOU!

The preschool children and teachers want to say thank you to the church members that brought in plants and seeds for the garden. The kids have harvested cherry tomatoes and basil so far. The peppers, large tomatoes and onions are ready soon.





Nativity Presbyterian Teacher Assistant, Caitlyn Morrissey has been busy with her artistic talent. Along with the children, they created spring flowers to decorate our living room.

FAMILY BOWLING EVENT

Join us Sunday, April 28 for an afternoon of bowling fun. We will meet at Bowlero in Jupiter from 2-4 for "all you can bowl" fun. The cost is \$32 per person. This fee includes all you can bowl for 2 hours, unlimited drinks and food choices as well as shoe rental. It may sound like a lot, but pricing it out individually came out at the same price not including food and drink.

This needs to be prepaid so please speak to Shonda Staudt as soon as possible.

BE IN THE KNOW!

Please join the Strategic Planning Committee for our meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6pm in the living room.

THRIVENT

Thrivent.com is an excellent way to invest your money with a religious based organization. Once you become a Thrivent member, you are able to host two action teams a year. An action team can be formed to raise money for someone in need, help in the community and especially helps to fund our two sandwich making events each month. If you are a Thrivent member and are able to host an event, go online to Thrivent.com to apply or contact kari@pbnativity or 561-622-4998 Monday through Friday, 10am to 3pm. Thrivent will sponsor up to \$250 for each team. There is no cost to you.

Thrivent members also remember to direct your Choice Dollars to your favorite non profit or charity yearly.

Nativity Lutheran Church & School

2024 Summer Camp Guide June 3 – August 2

9 weekly sessions, 561-622-4998, pia@pbnativity.com

LET US HELP TO PLAN YOUR SUMMER

Nativity offers a fun filled and educational Summer Camp for children **Ages 2-5**, (Older siblings welcome)
 Our focus at Nativity is on early literacy and reading readiness. This is a great time to bridge the transition from Preschool to Kindergarten. Each week we integrate the most exciting activities:

- Activities for the whole group, small group and individual practice
- Interactive learning centers
- Phonemic awareness, alphabet and sound recognition
- Memorization skills
- Music, rhythm and rhyme
- Outdoor activities
- Weekly movies, Bible lessons, Arts & Crafts
- Weekly Water Splish-Splash Day!!

Register by May 1, 2024! The Registration fee is \$100.
An additional fee of \$50 will be charged after May 1st.
 You may pick and choose any or all weeks as needed.

Please complete one form per child. (10% Sibling discount will be applied)

Registration Form

(Please print and check all applicable boxes and return with payment)

Childs Name: _____ DOB _____
 Parent/ Guardian Name: _____
 Phone Number: (H) _____ (C) _____
 E-Mail _____
 Allergies _____

Current physical and immunization forms must be on file

We open at 8 AM and close at 3 PM ... \$210 per week

Week 1:	June 03 - June 07	\$ _____
Week 2:	June 10 - June 14	\$ _____
Week 3:	June 17 - June 21	\$ _____
Week 4:	June 24 - June 28	\$ _____
Week 5:	July 01 - July 05	\$ _____
Week 6:	July 08 - July 12	\$ _____
Week 7:	July 15 - July 19	\$ _____
Week 8:	July 22 - July 26	\$ _____
Week 9:	July 28- August 2	\$ _____

Subtotal	\$ _____
Registration Fee	\$ 100.00
<i>After MAY 1st, 2024:</i> Late Registration Fee	\$ 150.00
TOTAL:	\$ _____

Please bill me through Brightwheel

Parent Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Family Newsletter



THIS MONTH'S THEME

Ocean Dive

Your child will take a journey through the ocean. From the top of the waves to the ocean floor, they will discover many creatures of the sea. Your child will blow like a whale, dance with a jellyfish and count baby seahorses.

BASICS TO REINFORCE AT HOME

LETTERS Oo, Ww and Xx

NUMBERS 15 and 16

COLOR Blue

SHAPE Triangle



Look for the daily notes about your child's art projects!

Today I made a rainbowfish.

If you look at a rainbowfish, you will see all the colors of the rainbow. After looking at a rainbowfish, I used colored paper to make my own rainbowfish. It's fun to experience!



Today I made oyster pearls.

If you are lucky, you may find a pearl inside an oyster. I made my own oyster by folding a paper plate. After wrapping beads onto a string, I turned it into an O. Now I can show my oyster and keep my pearl safe.



Ask Me: What's the most valuable of what you do with your oyster pearl?

Keep it positive!

When you are looking for ways to help your child behave, think positively. Research has shown that the behavior and reactions you show may set your child's expectations. Stay positive with these guidelines:

- Keep irritability, anger and general negative behaviors from showing through. Even a forced smile can make us feel better.
- Phrase your requests in a positive way. Instead of telling children what you don't want (e.g., "don't run"), express what you do want to see (e.g., "please walk").
- Replace sarcasm with constructive criticism. Children often misinterpret sarcasm.
- Set expectations and be sure to share them with your child. Avoid yells, threats or punishments.
- Let guidance and praise replace teasing and humiliation. Your child's self-esteem is extremely fragile and may be broken or boosted with each statement you issue.
- Respect your child and their choices, belongings and emotions. Ask for a respectful attitude in return.

We all have "off" days, but find a suitable way to work out your anger (e.g., exercise, writing or bubble baths). This doesn't mean that your child should not see any emotions you have and the way you deal with them. Simply keep your emotions about you and not about your child to help them learn how to deal with their own emotions. Create a caring environment to help your child feel secure and loved.



APRIL PRESCHOOL BIRTHDAYS

- 4/7 Genesis (Samy) Barrios
- 4/23 Olive Bennett
- 4/23 Rosemary Bennett



RECOMMENDED READS

- Cuddle Up WITH A GOOD BOOK**
- Hello Ocean*
by Pam Muñoz Ryan
 - Ocean Liners*
by Karl Zimmerman
 - We're Sailing to Galapagos*
by Laurie Krebs
 - Sea Shapes*
by Suse MacDonald
 - Exploring the Oceans*
by Stephen Hall
 - Swimmy*
by Leo Lionni
 - Starfish*
by Edith Thacher Hurd
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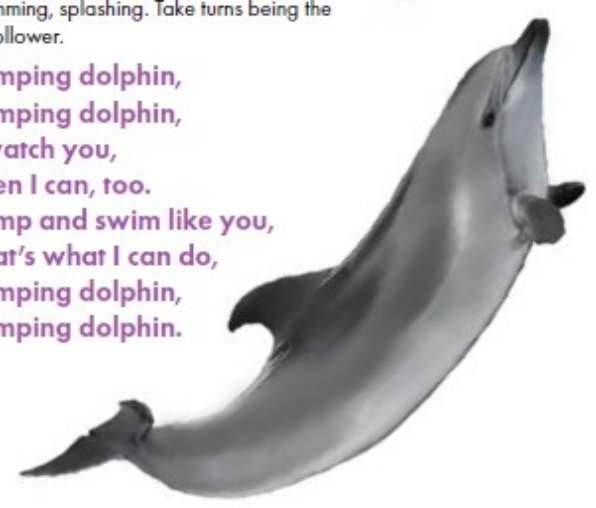
Sing-Along Song

Jumping Dolphin

(Sing to the tune of "Frère Jacques")

Use other sea creatures and/or actions for additional verses, e.g., swimming, splashing. Take turns being the leader and the follower.

Jumping dolphin,
Jumping dolphin,
I watch you,
Then I can, too.
Jump and swim like you,
That's what I can do,
Jumping dolphin,
Jumping dolphin.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH TO:



4/5 Robyn Roberts
4/11 Linda Roehl
4/16 Anna Bloor
4/19 Mara Winsor
4/22 Amy Winsor
4/28 Doris Ganon

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed in our newsletter, please contact the church office with your information, 561-622-4998 or kari@pbnativity.com.

FOLLOWING LIFE AT NATIVITY

Keep up with what's going on at Nativity by following us on Facebook. Search *@PBNativity* within Facebook. Follow us on Instagram at *nativitylutheranpbg*.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Would you like to support those persons who have been affected by wildfires, hurricanes, flooding from torrential rains, and more? Go to ELCA website and click on Lutheran Disaster Response to give.

Thank you to all for your continued support!

Your support and contributions will enable us to meet our goals and improve our ability to serve. Your generous donation will help fund our missions. Donate today on our website or by scanning this QR code with your phone:

Website: <https://nativitylutheranpbg.com/>



April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 5:45p 12-step-FH	2 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 2p Staff Mtg. 6-8p Development Mtg. 7:30p 12-step-FH	3 10a Children's Chapel	4 12p Ignite Sports	5	6
7 9a Worship	8 9:30a Women's Love Circle 5:45p 12-step-FH	9 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 6-8p Council 7:30p 12-step-FH	10 10a Children's Chapel	11 No School	12 11a-4p Pick up sandwich kits	13 9:00a sandwich drop off
14 9a Worship 10:15 Mom's Group	15 9:30a Sandwich Making 5:45p 12-step-FH	16 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 2p Staff Mtg. 6-8p 7:30p 12-step-FH	17 10a Children's Chapel	18 12p Ignite Sports	19	20 Seder Dinner
21 9a Worship 2p Violin/Piano Concert	22 5:45p 12-step-FH	23 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 6-8p Development Meeting 7:30p 12-step-FH	24 10a Children's Chapel	25 12p Ignite Sports	26	27
28 9a Worship 10:15a Mom's 10:15a Confirmation 2p Bowlero	29 5:45p 12-step-FH	30 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 7:30p 12-step-FH				

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Music Director:
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Teachers:
Dianne Seker, VPK Teacher
& Extended Care
Theresa Saccone, 3yr. Teacher
Sandra Calle, 2yr. Teacher
Caitlin Morrissey, Co-Teacher
Judith Novoa, Co-teacher

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Hollond Romaine
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God's work...

...Our hands

OTHER CHURCH *Leaders*

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Women's Ministry: Ceil Thomas
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