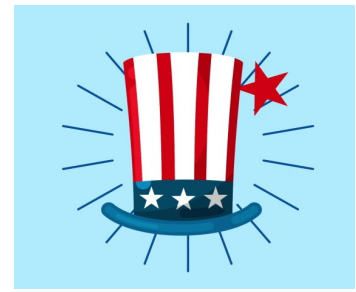


THE NATIVITY

Carol



Vol. 61 Issue 7 July 2024

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

WORDS FROM

Pastor Steve

Synod Assembly Report from Pastor Steve and Mike Moore

Pastor Steve and Mike Moore attended Synod Assembly in Kissimmee from 5/31 -6/2. The assembly theme was, *Who Comes Up in your Dreams?* Rev. Dr. Bishop Rafael Malpica Padilla was the keynote speaker. His CV can be viewed here: <https://lstc.edu/academics/faculty/rafael-malpica-padilla/> Over the course of three addresses, Bishop Padilla (BP) spoke at length about radical hospitality, love as the sole guiding principle of our souls, and the opportunity for the church to be the beacon of reconciliation through repentance, restoration and recreation. Some quoted highlights are the following:

“Jesus should be the only ‘other’ in our lives.”

“Our oneness is essential to our witness.”

“The church doesn’t go left or right, it goes deeper.”

“Love is stubborn unwavering commitment.”

“You cannot share the Gospel with those with whom you are not willing to build community.”

“How do we become a disturbing presence of good in our time?”

Pastor Steve and Mike attended a workshop on *Social Media and Digital Outreach*. They learned a lot and plan to implement some of their new found knowledge to Nativity’s social media platforms, website, and Sunday morning worship.

Pastor Steve and Preschool Director Pia Heiser attended the *Elevating Families Through Schools* workshop. This workshop centered on the development and expansion of preschool chapel from a once a week event, to a daily event, and eventually to a Sunday morning event at Memorial Lutheran in St. Augustine. Pastor Steve and Preschool Director Pia Heiser have discussed and decided they will rework and expand Nativity’s chapel experiences beginning fall 2024. They believe this to be a way of expanding the child and parent’s relationship with the love of God through Jesus Christ.

Mike Moore attended the workshop *2009: Learning From The Past and Looking Ahead*. The 2009 ELCA social statement, “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust,” addressed a wide range of topics, but it was statements about same-sex relationships that caused many individuals and congregations to leave our denomination. A lot has happened since then, including the 2015 Supreme Court ruling that legalized same-sex marriage and the 2016 Pulse nightclub shooting that killed 49 and wounded 53 members of the LGBTQIA+ community. In 2019, the ELCA adopted the social statement, “Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action” and the church is currently seeking feedback on the first draft of a statement on Civic Life and Faith. As the ELCA explores a revision of the 2009 social statement, this workshop will explore it and these subsequent statements. What have we, as church and as society, learned and how should that learning be reflected in the work of the church?

Pastor Steve, Mike Moore and Pia Heiser attended an evening reception wherein we connected with the Rev. Katie Carroll of the Synod’s *Vision 2 Action* grant program (Act Love Walk), and Rev. Kari Niedermaier of *Just Love*. Mike was able to personally share the progress and direction of Act Love Walk with Rev. Katie. Pastor Steve and Mike networked with members of the Just Love Team to possibly attend an event of theirs this fall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Steve and Mike Moore, Chair of Act Love Walk



July Adult Education Series: *Journey with John*

Over the course of the first three Sundays of July (7, 14, and 21) let's meet in the Family Room following worship for coffee and fellowship from 10:15-11AM to study the book of John. In John we will get to know the disciple "whom Jesus loved", we will better understand how John invites us to see ourselves in his reflection – a sinner embraced by God's unconditional love, and finally that Jesus is who He says He is and that we, too, are beloved children of God. Use your cell phone camera to capture the QR code below. Once registered you will receive the discussion questions for the Bible study series. This will help you know what to look out for when reading. A chapter a day. You can do it! We are looking forward to this ***Journey with John*** and you, in July! Here is the schedule:

July 7th – Read chapters 1-7

July 14th – Read chapters 8-14

July 21st – Read chapters 15-21



NEW! THE GOOD NEWS FROM THE GARDENS PODCAST



This is the audio of Sunday morning's scripture and message made available following Sunday's service. Did Pastor Steve say something in his message you'd like to hear again? Or maybe you missed Sunday worship, and you'd like to hear the scripture and message. Or perhaps you'd like to share the good news with someone that needs to hear it? Now you can! Use the QR code to Go to the Sunday's Sermons page of Nativity's website. There you can listen to the podcast, and navigate to the podcast website to subscribe via your preferred podcast player. Enjoy, and share!

LISTEN! CONVERSATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY

Both God and Jesus said, "Listen". It was a heads up that what they were about to say was important. I believe everyone has something important to say. Everyone has a story, an event that helps to define who they are, and possess the power to connect us to one another in ways that only the Holy Spirit can.

Our first guests are longtime member (40+ years) Karen Joyce, and her son Bret Rizzo (first person to attend seminary from Nativity Lutheran). [Click here](#) to visit Nativity's website wherein you can listen to this podcast, and navigate to the podcast website to subscribe via your preferred podcast player. Enjoy, and share!

Who will we listen to next? Maybe you! Contact Pastor Steve at pastor@pbnativity.com before he contacts you!

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.

MOM'S GROUP

Due to summer schedules, over the summer, mom's group will informally meet during fellowship in the family room after church. This will give us the opportunity to catch up with one another.

GRADUATION UPDATE

Last month we missed listing Steven Karlik as a graduating senior from Jupiter High School. Steven is the son of Steven and Ana Karlik, and grandson of Doris Karlik. Steven will be attending Florida State University this fall. God bless you and keep you Steven!

FORMER NATIVITY MEMBER AND EMPLOYEE DECEASED

Ruth Schultz passed away peacefully on June 10, 2024 at the age of almost 98. Ruth was Nativity's secretary while Steve Rust was pastor. She lived in Orlando after leaving Palm Beach Gardens. Click below for her full obituary.

[HTTPS://WWW.DIGNITYMEMORIAL.COM/OBITUARIES/ORLANDO-FL/RUTH-SCHULTZ-11858402](https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/orlando-fl/ruth-schultz-11858402)

WOMEN'S LOVE CIRCLE

Love Circle will take a break over the summer and resume meetings on September 9th. Safe summer to all.

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Women's Love Circle for purchasing baptismal napkins for the church.

FIRST PHOTOS FROM LUTHEROCK

More to come...



FEEDING *Ministries*

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

Pantry needs for mobile food ministry: sugar, flour, spices, oatmeal, canned meats, pasta, dry beans, instant potatoes, gravy, baby food, saltines (packaged in sleeves), Ramen noodles and bottled water.

SANDWICH MAKING

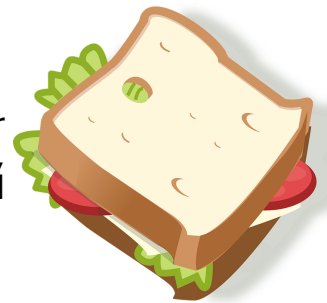
Our next 2nd Saturday Take Home Sandwich Making is August 10th. There are six kits containing supplies to make 50 sandwiches. Go online to the link below to sign up for one or more of the kits. The kits may be picked up on Friday, the 9th between 11am and 3pm. Bring the completed sandwiches back on Saturday, the 10th 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 to June's sandwich makers: Kelly, Sara and Christopher Hoekstra, Linda, Max and West Roehl, Carol Duvall and Michael Segal, Theresa and Frank Saccone, Audra Bryson, Amy, Pastor Steve, Lydia, Laurel and Mara Winsor. Thank you to Linda Roehl for shopping and delivering.

THERE WILL BE NO TAKE HOME SANDWICH MAKING IN JULY! GO AHEAD AND SIGN UP FOR AUGUST.



THIRD MONDAY SANDWICH MAKING

Our onsite sandwich making ministry will be Monday, July 15th at 9:30am 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 June sandwich makers: John & Nancy Steffen, David Hoecker, Ceil Thomas, Pastor Steve, Laurel & Mara Winsor, Kathy Brockelbank and Tom Kuhn. Also thank you to John & Nancy Steffen for shopping and for delivering the finished sandwiches to St. George's. The event was funded by Thrivent.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

If you would like to help keep our feeding ministries alive, please write check to Nativity and write in memo line sandwich making or bring in pantry food items like rice, beans, vegetables, cereal, etc. for our Act, Love, Walk Ministry.

If you are a Thrivent member, please apply for an Action Team to help fund one of the sandwich making events. You may talk to Nancy Steffen, Linda Roehl or Kari in the church office to find out what month needs financing. Thank you in advance.

ACT, LOVE, WALK

Our mobile ministry committee has been busy cleaning and putting together shelves in our storage room for the food donated.



NEWS FROM MARY WINSOR

Hello All! I hope everyone has had a lovely spring and start to the summer season! Below is newsletter for April and May.

Thank you all for your continued love and support! It means the world. I appreciate you all!!

APRIL & MAY 2024

Mary in Mexico

YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION



TRIP TO CHIAPAS

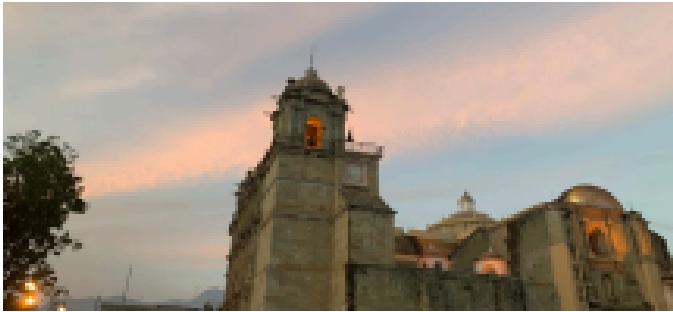
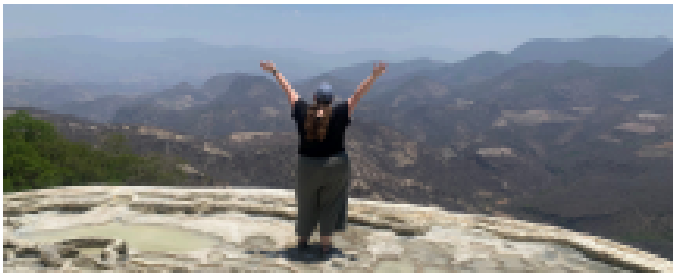
Right after Easter celebrations, Yuly, her friend Blanca, and I went on a trip to the southern Mexican state of Chiapas. I had been saving almost all of my stipend for five months in order to go. We stayed in the "pueblo magico" (magic town) of San Cristobal de la Casas at Yuly's best friend's house. She took us all around and gave us a tour of the town. We spent time exploring some smaller towns outside of San Cristobal where we visited a church that had a beautiful mix of Catholic and indigenous history as well as visited a woman's home studio where she showed us how she weaved fabrics in the traditional style. The women spent about ten minutes trying to find a blouse and skirt that matched my eyes. Afterward, they made us a meal and we shared it together. We also took a tour of a canyon seeing its viewpoints from above, and then a boat tour of it from below. We spent lots of time walking through the streets and markets of San Cristobal shopping and taking in the beautiful time of year. Overall, it was such an amazing trip and I am so grateful to have gone and shared it with Yuly!

Wow! The past two months have flown by! April and May brought some serious levels of heat and a schedule so busy I'm just now getting around to sending out my newsletter. As the city has been heating up, I often find myself struggling to fall asleep and stay asleep, which makes me more appreciative of the houses and buildings pumped with AC back home, especially as a native Floridian. April was packed with two trips that I am so grateful to have taken, and May with long days at the shelter and exploring the city on the weekends.



FUNDRAISING:

This newsletter is my last call for fundraising! I will be able to accept financial support through the end of June! See the end of this newsletter for all the information, and feel free to email me with any questions!



RETREAT TO OAXACA

In April our group took a trip to the southern Mexican city Oaxaca for our third retreat. Upon arrival, it was so nice to see everyone and know that we would have some quality time together. On our first day we went on a tour of the most significant sites and things to see, including the Tree of Tule (widest tree in the world), visited the Hierve el Agua nature preserve and lookout, went to a traditional Oaxacan bakery, learned how fabrics are traditional dyed and woven, and went to a Mezcal tasting. The next days were spent exploring central Oaxaca, drinking lots of freshly made chocolate milk, eating amazing food at the local market, and spending time at the hotel reflecting on our YAGM years so far and enjoying time in the pool together. It was such a nice retreat, and I was so glad to have been able to visit a new part of Mexico with my cohort.

For more pictures, info, and writings, check out my blog!!

sites.google.com/view/maryinmexico

UPDATES AND FEELINGS

The past few months at Casa Tochan have had me busier than ever. Each day is full of helping out around the house, mainly with the CBP-One appointment applications. One of the family shelters close to ours often sends people throughout the week who need help with their applications and between them and our guests, my hands have been full. I have also continued helping out with various office work tasks as needed, and enjoy my time in the office with the staff and fellow volunteers (especially because it offers some respite from the hot sun.) It has been a great couple of months in the shelter and whenever I think about leaving, I definitely feel sad. I have grown to truly love and appreciate my days at Tochan with the migrants and volunteers/staff. I know that saying goodbye will not be easy. As my time here in Mexico City has gone on, I have found my level of Spanish has grown and grown. I contribute most of this to the various nationalities we have in the shelter. With so many various accents of Spanish being heard on a daily basis, my listening skills have gotten pretty good, and my confidence in speaking is at an all-time high. Thanks to the patience of everyone and my long "sobremesas" (post-dinner convos) with Yuly, I am feeling more and more truly comfy and confident speaking each day!

BAKE SALE FUNDRAISING

In June, the eight youth that went to Lutherock, had two fundraisers. First they had a bake and then the next Sunday, they had a car wash. Between the two and donations, they raised almost \$2,000. Thank you to all those that helped them get to camp by baking, washing, giving and for all your prayers.



Pictured here is the superb supervision of the dads on Father's Day at the youth car wash.







Nativity Lutheran Church & School

2024 Summer Camp Guide July 1 – August 2

5 weekly sessions remaining, 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!!

The Registration fee is \$150.

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 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		\$ 150.00_
TOTAL:		\$ _____

Please bill me through Brightwheel

Parent Signature _____ Date ___ / ___ / ___

SUPER HERO'S SUMMER CAMP



Sprinkler fun at camp is a winner on these hot summer days!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH TO:



7/4	Kelly Hoekstra
7/4	Steven Karlik
7/7	Kim Lynch
7/9	Michael Esselstrom
7/13	Jeremy Bloor
7/14	Rodney Bryson
7/20	West Roehl
7/25	Ana Karlik
7/27	Lorraine Ballard
7/28	Joan Stelicha
7/31	Caitlin Morrissey
7/31	Dylan Morrissey

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH TO:

7/2 Debra & Matt Flynn

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 *nativitylutheranpbjg*.

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://nativitylutheranpbjg.com/>



July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 5:45p 12-step-FH	2 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew	3	4 Holiday Closed/No Camp	5	6
	8a-3p Summer Camp					
		7:30p 12-step-FH				
7 9a Worship 10:15a Adult Ed	8 5:45p 12-step-FH	9 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew	10	11	12	13
	8a-3p Summer Camp					
		7:30p 12-step-FH				
14 9a Worship 10:15a Adult Ed	15 5:45p 12-step-FH	16 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 6-8p Development mtg.	17	18	19	20
	8a-3p Summer Camp					
		7:30p 12-step-FH				
21 9a Worship 10:15a Adult Ed	22 9:30a Sandwich Making	23 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew	24	25	26	27
	8a-3p Summer Camp					
	5:45p 12-step-FH	7:30p 12-step-FH				
28 9a Worship	29	30 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew	31			
	8a-3p Summer Camp					
	5:45p 12-step-FH	7:30p 12-step-FH				

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Kari Donnelly
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Cell: 561 676-7361

Music Director:
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yinyugrandpiano@gmail.com

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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Micah Miller
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Hollond Romaine
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God's work...

...Our hands



OTHER CHURCH

Leaders

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alexandria.mcclellan@gmail.com

Women's Ministry: Ceil Thomas
bamacat@gmail.com

Act, Love, Walk (Mobile Ministry):
Michael Moore mtmoore1313@gmail.com

Take Home Sandwich Making:
Linda Roehl lindaroehl411@gmail.com

3rd Monday Sandwich Making:
John & Nancy Steffen
nancysteffen7@gmail.com

Development Committee: Michael Segal
msegal524@gmail.com

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