

THE NATIVITY

Carol



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

WORDS FROM

Pastor Steve

...but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.'

One recent evening after dinner, the family and I were clicking through tv channels looking for something to watch together. We ended up landing on the Scripps National Spelling Bee. For an hour or so we watched 11-14 year old kids from all over the country do their best at spelling words that not even our computers, tablets and phone's autocorrect could spell right. The emcee would give them all kinds of information about the word. Pronunciation, word origin, and the word used in a sentence were all helps for the kid before the timer would start. For a minute and a half these kids would stand at a microphone, some staring off into space, others directly at the ground. Many would use 80 of their 90 seconds asking the emcee to repeat the word and its clues over and over again. A few would trace their hopeful spelling into the palm of their hand before they dare utter a single letter for fear of getting it wrong. I tell you, C's were disguised as S's, ambiguous E's lurked, Y's masqueraded as I's, and consonant clusters, that I believe never existed, came into existence just for that competition.

Some of these youngsters would wait until the last 10 seconds to begin spelling their word. It was as intense as a bases loaded bottom of the 9th inning, batter with a full count, needing a walk off grand slam to win game seven of the World Series! When the kid got the spelling correct, they would fist pump the air around them, jump, squeal with joy, dance in place, or a combination of all. And of course there was the "under control" response as well, when the child just turned and walked back to their seat all calm, cool and collected. The mood was much different, when one of those imposter Y's, C's, or the like, tricked the kid into a misspelling. A solemn look would come over their face. For some there was a mixture of deep exhalation, welled up eyes, and quivering lips. But it was what happened next that was

truly beautiful. When a word went misspelled, the emcee would immediately affirm the kid's effort, followed by a listing of their other talents, interests and accomplishments. Proud parents, and onlookers clapped, as the contestant would exit stage left, but not before getting high fives from their spelling peers on stage with them. Truly uplifting. The good side of humanity.

There was a similar vibe this past week when seventeen kids graduated from VPK at Nativity. As they received their diplomas, and received a hug from Ms. Dianne, Ms. Pia shared the child's future vocational desires. Garbage man, princess, wealth management, army, fireman, and working with mommy and daddy were a few of the career choices. The graduation ceremony overflowed with appreciation and love for the kids, teachers and parents. Truly uplifting. Again, the good side of humanity.

Encouragement is important. Jesus encouraged his disciples to let the children come to him. Jesus did not want to miss out on an opportunity to have children feel seen and heard. Jesus needed his disciples to know that the kingdom belonged to them as well. Following in the ways of Jesus is to affirm persons. What if we affirmed persons that we don't necessarily agree with on any number of fronts. What if we approached each other in a childlike manner? What if we made efforts to see and hear one another without bias, such as a child does? What if we saw ourselves as being on the same stage, as part of the same class of persons? All of us, Children of God. Today, in love, Jesus challenges you and I to encourage and accept one another. It is from this vantage point that we are called to live.

One of the songs the Nativity kids sang at the graduation ceremony was The World is a Rainbow by Greg and Steve. Take in these lyrics...

The world is a rainbow
With many kinds of people;
It takes all kinds of people
To make the world go round.
Now you be you
And I'll be me.
That's the way we were meant to be.
But the world is a mixing cup.
Just look what happens when you stir it up!

The kids sang it with gusto, might we adults, leaders and educators of today's youth, followers of Jesus, live into this ideology and belief system fully. IN the name of Jesus Christ, may the Spirit guide us to lift up, listen and encourage us to be approachable and lovable to one another. Amen.

FUNDRAISING FOR CAMP LUTHEROCK

Eight youth and their parents are headed to Camp Lutherock in North Carolina the last week of June. While the kids are engaged in camp activities, the parents and Pastor Steve will be building community, and strengthening relationships amongst ourselves. Attending camp is part of our youth's confirmation program. Over the course of the next few weeks the youth will be leading a couple fundraising efforts to offset the cost of camp. The cost of camp is approx. \$750 a kid not including travel expenses. 10% of all the money they raise will go to Nativity's Act Love Walk and Sandwich Making ministries. Their goal is to raise \$2000. The following is what's planned:

Sunday 6/9 Bake Sale - The kids bake it, and hopefully you buy it!

Sunday 6/16 Car Wash and Tire Pressure – Come to church with a dirty car, leave with a clean car and properly inflated tires!

Envelope Fundraiser – Don't care for baked goods, and/or you like your car dirty with overinflated tires, but you want to support the youth of Nativity? No problem! In the Family Room at church is a display with envelopes. Take an envelope with a dollar amount you are comfortable donating, and return to offering plate/office with cash or check. Or, use the QR code at the display in Family Room.

Thank you!

Camp attendees are:

Desi Romaine, Mom-Hollond Romaine

Susannah Johnsen, Charlotte Johnsen, Parents-Breanne Johnsen, John Johnsen

Max Roehl, West Roehl, Parents-Tina Roehl, Joel Roehl

Mckenna Deyling, Caitlyn Deyling

Mara Winsor, Parents-Amy Winsor, Steve Winsor

Watch for photos and updates on facebook.

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!



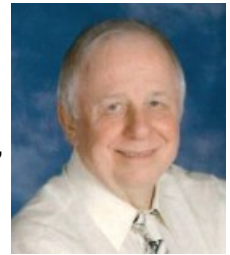
LISTEN! CONVERSATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY

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!

NATIVITY *News*



WITH SYMPATHY

Nativity member and friend Helmut Jagels passed away April 10, 2024. He was 87 years old.

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 June 8th. All 6 kits have been claimed. The kits may be picked up on Friday, the 7th between 11am and 3pm. Bring the completed sandwiches back on Saturday, the 8th 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 May's 2nd Saturday sandwich makers: Kelly, Sara and Christopher Hoekstra, Linda, Max and West Roehl, Gloria and Dennis Jackson, Carol Duvall and Michael Segal, Theresa and Frank Saccone, Mike, Abby and Joseph Moore. Thank you to Linda for shopping and delivering.

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.

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

WOMEN'S LOVE CIRCLE

Love Circle is meeting on Monday, June 10th at 9:30am. They will take a break over the summer and resume meetings on September 9th. Safe summer to all.

THIRD MONDAY SANDWICH MAKING

Our onsite sandwich making ministry will be Monday, June 17th 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 May sandwich makers: John & Nancy Steffen, Nativity neighbors: Natale & son Blake, David Hoecker, Randy Rich, Ceil Thomas, MaryAnn & Stan Spech. 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.

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.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

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

Last month the pre K 2 and 3 class planted sunflowers and they are growing.



The kids and their moms also spent some extra time celebrating Mother's Day sharing breakfast and gifts at Nativity.



CONGRATULATIONS TO NATIVITY 2024 VPK GRADUATES!



Declan Baker Orr



Genesis Barrios



Olive Bennett



Hunter Braun



Cynthia Hite



Skylar Hite



Stella Hite



Irie Jackson



Kingsley Jackson



Theodore Olson



Charly Pengue



Cayden Rodriguez



Oliver Russo



TJ Snyder



Lansey Thely



Michael Volpe



Faye Wilson

HERE WE COME KINDERGARTEN.

PRESCHOOL

Scoop

2024 VPK GRADUATION AND END OF YEAR CEREMONY

Wednesday, May 29, Nativity Preschool had 150 people in attendance for the graduation and end of year ceremony. It was a wonderful event.



The entire school above. Our largest graduation class below, 17 graduates. And the 2s and 3s on next photo.



Staff: Sandra Calle, Caitlyn Morrissey, Theresa Saccone, Pastor Steve, Judy Novoa, Dianne Seker, Pia Heiser.

After the graduation program and end of year ceremony, Tropical Snow was on site to hand out snow cones. The entire families stayed and enjoyed time together.



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 ____ / ____ / ____

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH TO:



6/3	Brittany Oclon
6/4	Don Laven
6/7	Pia Heiser
6/9	Dennis Johnson
6/13	Matthew Furlong (Yinyu's hubby)
6/14	Richard Speckmann
6/27	Yinyu Li

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH TO:

6/12	Jim & Pat Guretzky
6/15	Don & Audrey Laven
6/24	Richard & Sharon Speckmann
6/25	Bob & Kathy Brockelbank
6/29	Stuart & Sandy McClellan

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/>



June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Synod Assembly
2 9a Worship Synod Assembly ends	3 5:45p 12-step-FH	4 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 2p Staff Mtg. 7:30p 12-step-FH	5	6	7 11a-3p Pick up sandwich kits	8 9:00a sandwich drop off
8a-3p Summer Camp						
9 9a Worship Bake Sale 10:15 Mom's Group	10 5:45p 12-step-FH	11 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 6-8p Council 7:30p 12-step-FH	12	13	14	15
8a-3p Summer Camp						
16 9a Worship Car Wash	17 9:30a Sandwich Making 5:45p 12-step-FH	18 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 7:30p 12-step-FH	19	20	21	22
8a-3p Summer Camp						
23 9a Worship	24 5:45p 12-step-FH	25 7:30p 12-step-FH	26	27	28	29
8a-3p Summer Camp						
LutherRock Camp						
30 9a Worship						

Pastor:
Pastor Steve Winsor
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(727)542-0287

School Director:
Pia Heiser
pia@pbnativity.com

Office Manager:
Kari Donnelly
kari@pbnativity.com
Cell: 561 676-7361

Music Director:
Yinyu Li
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

President: Abby Moore
214-354-4827
abigailbmoore@gmail.com

Vice-President: Carol Duvall
410-570-1735
carol.a.duvall@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jim Clark

Secretary:

Council Members at Large:

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Micah Miller
407-415-7367
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Hollond Romaine
561-267-0543
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God's work...

...Our hands

OTHER CHURCH

Leaders

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

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



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