

THE NATIVITY

Carol

God's work. Our hands.



Vol. 61 Issue 9 September 2024

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

WORDS FROM

Pastor Steve

A Faith That Works

A five week sermon series for the month of September in the book of James shows us how to live our faith in action.

The book of James stands unique in the New Testament for is no-nonsense, practical, proverbial wisdom. There is very little cryptic language or mysterious imagery in the way that it calls people to live out their discipleship. For James, faith is neither radically privatized nor solely personal. It is to be expressed outwardly, to improve one's relationships with others and to help those in need. This series challenges the belief that faith is something that should be kept to one's self and challenges our modern day culture that questions the value in religion at all.

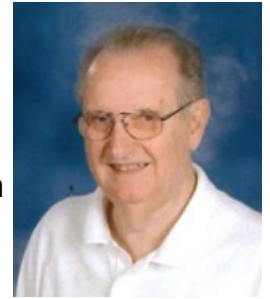
Martin Luther was not a fan of the book of James, calling it, "an epistle of straw". He believed it's grace was not sturdy enough to be included in the canon. He insisted that James relied too heavily on the works of an individual as their saving grace, and not faith in God alone. Wherein Mark (the Gospel that accompanies James) has claims that sin comes from within: James says it comes from the outside world, which Christians need to avoid. Churches have taught that both are true. Whereas other books of the Bible are informative (the head) or emotive (the heart), James is uniquely practical in that its imagery is solid and tangible; hands working for the good of God's kingdom, or feet moving in the direction of someone who needs assistance. James will challenge us to live out our faith, making a difference, and offering our whole self to God.

Date	Sermon Title	Scripture	Theme
September 1 st	Just Do It!	James 1:17-27	Be doers, not just hearers, of God's commands.
September 8 th	Body and Soul	James 2:1-7	The body matters: using our physical means to meet physical needs.
September 15 th	Taming the Tongue	James 3:1-12	The tongue is a small organ that can do great damage.
September 22 nd	The Good Life	James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	Gentleness and wisdom are the keys to contentment.
September 29 th	Powerful Prayer	James 5:13-20	Prayer is healing balm for physical suffering and broken communities.



BLESSINGS ON AUGUST 11, 2024
 College bound Steve Karlik and Laurel Winsor received blessings from Pastor Steve. Preschool teachers were installed. Nativity preschool students and students of all ages had a blessing of the backpacks and received a little Jesus.





A LOSS IN THE FAMILY

Sam Snyder passed away at the age of 87 on August 8. He was at his son, Sam Jr.'s home in Mt. Pleasant, SC with his second son, Bob there also.

The sons want everyone at Nativity to know that Sam loved and missed us all.

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY IS SEPT. 8!

On Sunday Sept. 8th, Nativity is taking the opportunity to be a part of thousands of other churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. We will serve God by serving God's people by assembling bags of food for our **Act Love Walk** ministry. A morning of worship, fellowship and service all rolled into one!

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.

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.

WOMEN'S LOVE CIRCLE

Love Circle will meet Monday, September 9th at 9:30 a.m. in the church reception area. All women are invited to join for Bible study and fellowship.

GIVING TO NATIVITY

To explore and give to a specific ministry of Nativity, us the QR codes below to navigate to our webpage where you can learn about us and through PayPal. Thank you, and God bless!

Church Operations



Preschool



Community Service & Outreach



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.

YOUTH SHARING THEIR EXPERIENCE FROM LUTHEROCK CAMP



PARENTS' NIGHT OUT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Nativity is planning a community ministry event on Saturday, September 21st, to support children with an evening of activities, dinner, and a movie. We are reaching out for volunteers, adults and youth to help make our event a success!

Parents volunteering will not be charged for their children (ages 3 and potty trained through 5th grade) who attend the Parent Night Out event.

Please note that if this date isn't possible, reply to Carol Duvall at (410)570-1735 expressing your interest in volunteering for one of the following dates:

- Saturday, October 19th
- Saturday, November 2nd
- Saturday, December 14th

We need a few adult volunteers to work one of three shifts: (1) 4-6pm, (2) 6-8pm, or (3) 5-9pm.

We also need middle and high school youth to walk alongside the younger children and assist in the activities (4:15-9pm). At 4:15pm, there will be a general volunteer orientation for our youth volunteers.

Please use the code below to register as a volunteer before Sept 6th. You may also use the link <https://nativity.churchtrac.com/connect?ei=FC9GF4H>



Friends & Feelings

A cartoon illustration of a boy with dark hair and glasses, wearing an orange shirt and blue pants, being hugged from behind by a girl with brown hair, wearing a blue shirt and light blue pants. They are both smiling.

ATB 100: 100%
about 100%
to show 100%

sleepy

A cartoon illustration of a young girl with short brown hair and bangs. She has her eyes closed and a small yawn on her face, with her mouth slightly open. She is resting her head on her right hand, which is propped up. She is wearing a pink top. The background is a solid teal color. The word "sleepy" is written in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font in the upper left corner of the image.



RECOMMENDED READS

Cuddle Up WITH A GOOD BOOK

My Friend Is Sad
by Mo Willems

Feelings
by Aiki

What Is a Friend?
by Etan Boritzer

The Way I Feel
by Janan Cain

We Are Best Friends
by Aiki

Being Friends
by Karen Beaumont



How do you feel?

(Sing to the tune of "Frère Jacques")

Talk to your child about how things make him feel.
Sing this song together as you change your face to match the feeling.

Are you sad? Are you sad?
My dear friend, my dear friend.
Tell me what is wrong,
tell me what is wrong.
Are you sad? Are you sad?

Are you happy? Are you happy?
My dear friend, my dear friend.
We'll sing and dance together,
We'll be friends forever.
Are you happy? Are you happy?

Family Activities

Dear Friend

Write a letter to a family friend or neighbor and invite them to write back. Take a walk to the mailbox and mail the letter. Check the mail each day. Look at the mail and discuss where it came from.



PRESCHOOL *News*

AUGUST SCHOOL BIRTHDAY

8/29 Saphira Corbite



SEPTEMBER SCHOOL BIRTHDAY

9/21 Luke Lowen

Five Strategies for Individualized Learning

In our daily routine we focus on five ways to individualize learning and address the wide range of skills and abilities children demonstrate throughout the day.

1. **Offer many choices.** We encourage children to participate and explore in the way they prefer.
2. **Plan for possibilities.** We think about how we can adjust the activity in the moment for children who need more time, more support, or experience with concrete materials to understand the concept.
3. **Empower children to document their learning.** We talk to children about how and why we take notes, photos, or videos of their work. We invite children to share what they would like to do or are doing, through art and stories and even writing.
4. **Encourage community support.** We celebrate each child's expertise and encourage all within the community to support children who could benefit from their help.
5. **Provide a variety of learning materials.** In your physical classroom and outdoors, we evaluate the materials in each interest area. Are there puzzles for children with different ability levels? Books about topics that interest the children, and relate to their lives?

Join us as we start every morning at 8:45 in our Chapel!



September
2024

Volume 10 Issue 9

Early Learning Parents' Pages

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE DIVISION OF EARLY LEARNING

Start Early and Don't Miss a Day!

One of the first signs of your baby's emergent literacy development is when they seem to understand what you are saying. And really, from the moment your baby begins to coo or babble, they are communicating. Remarkably, a baby's brain possesses boundless potential; its capacity for storage is limitless. So, the more varied and enriching experiences and conversations you provide your baby, the more their brain expands and advances. Early literacy includes the development of language, listening, speaking, viewing, reading and writing.

Here are a few more ways to inspire your child's early literacy development:

Infants

- Engage in conversation with your baby throughout the day by having conversations with them while describing what you are doing.
- Sing songs and read nursery rhymes to your baby.

Toddlers

- Provide opportunities for your toddler to write by scribbling on a large piece of paper with a jumbo or large crayon. Ask your toddler "Can you tell me about the picture you drew?" or "What did you draw or write?" Next, draw a picture of a dog on your toddler's paper. If your toddler tells you it is a dog, write the word "dog." This supports their emergent literacy skills.
- Sing the song "I'm a Little Tea Pot" with your toddler. Encourage your toddler to learn to sing and move with each action in the song.

Preschoolers

- While you're driving or riding on public transit, sing, read signs and talk about the words you see in the environment, such as store and street signs. Ask your child, "Do you see the letters in the words on the sign?" This provides a fantastic way to expose your child to the alphabet and words.
- Read a book for 15 to 20 minutes with your child every day. This helps them learn to listen and builds their vocabulary.

You can also use the following resources to support engaging with your child:

- The Division of Early Learning's [Florida Early Learning and Developmental Standards](#) (FELDS) provide information on the progression of learning and development from birth to age five. The Language and Literacy domain has suggested activities that encourage your child's communication and early literacy development. You can also talk with your child's teacher about activities to do at home to support skills they are currently learning in the classroom.
- Florida Commissioner of Education Manny Diaz, Jr.'s [Commissioner's Book of the Month](#) promotes literacy and reading engagement while helping children succeed academically and in life through a monthly reading challenge.

Screening and Progress Monitoring

Developmental screening and progress monitoring help show how children develop and progress in their growth and educational development. When conducted regularly, both offer valuable insights into a child's progress over time.

Children from birth to age 5 who participate in the School Readiness (SR) program undergo annual developmental screenings. Parents complete an electronic Ages & Stages Questionnaire (ASQ) on each child when completing the enrollment process. Screenings identify whether children are meeting milestones appropriate for their age or whether they may need targeted assistance. To learn more about the ASQ, contact your [local early learning coalition](#).

Children in Florida's Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) program participate in the Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FAST) or FAST Star Early Literacy. This ongoing progress monitoring helps teachers understand children's educational needs as the teachers monitor children's learning progression throughout VPK.

To learn more about the FAST Star Early Literacy, visit the [Family Guide to Star Assessments](#) and the [FAST Star Early Literacy Family Letter - What Families Need to Know](#).



Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) is a free program that connects families living in or moving to Florida with community resources.

Child Care Resource and Referral:

- Informs families on how to identify quality child care environments.
- Helps families with the School Readiness and Voluntary Prekindergarten application process.
- Educates families about a child's basic needs, financial assistance options, community resources and agencies that support family well-being.
- Connects families to specialists and resources for supporting children with special needs.
- Shares resources that support the needs of military families.

How do I receive CCR&R assistance?

Contact your local [early learning coalition](#) and speak to a CCR&R specialist. You may also call the state office on their toll-free family line at 866-357-3239.

National Grandparents Day is September 8

Grandparents play various roles in their grandchildren's lives, and the bond with a grandparent can have a profound impact on a child. National Grandparents Day is Sunday, September 8. To celebrate, help your child show their appreciation and love with heartfelt gestures. Have them draw a picture, create a card or make a phone call or video chat. If the grandparents live nearby, plan a visit or maybe even a picnic. Grandparents cherish acknowledgment from their grandchildren.

Encourage grandparents interested in volunteering in the classroom to contact the school or talk to your child's classroom teacher to learn about ways they can assist during the school day. Volunteer opportunities can include support during small group, at recess or even reading a story to the class. Grandparents bring unique and enriching perspectives, love and wisdom.

Mark your calendar. National Grandparents Day is a great opportunity to honor the positive role grandparents play in the lives of grandchildren.

FEEDING *Ministries*

GREAT NEWS! ACT, LOVE, WALK UPDATE...

On Monday 8/19 Mike Moore, Lakesa Ferguson, and Pastor Steve visited three potential ministry sites for Act Love Walk. Lake Park Library, and two extended stay motels in the area with large populations of school children received our mobile food pantry/ice cream truck ministry sales pitch with hearts wide open! We have the green light to feed to Act as Jesus taught. Love as we are loved, and Walk with God's people. That is the great news! The sobering news is that the demand for food assistance is great. As soon as we iron out a couple of small details, we will be heading to these ministry sites. Mike Moore and his team will be developing opportunities to collect non-perishables from the greater community. There are a number of ways you can help. First, help stock the food pantry. Bring the following items to church and place on cart in Family Room:

Spices
Oatmeal
Canned Meats
Canned Soup

Canned Fruit
Canned Veggies
Instant potatoes
Gravy
Powdered Milk

Baby Food
Boxed Saltines
Ramen Noodles
Bottled Water

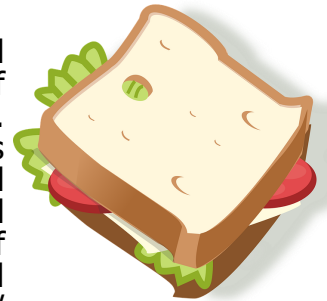


Monetary donations are greatly appreciated as well!

Want to help and or give to this ministry? Contact Mike Moore at mtmoore1313@gmail.com, or talk to him at church! God is good!

SANDWICH MAKING

Our next 2nd Saturday Take Home Sandwich Making is September 14th. All six kits have been registered for. Please sign up for October and beyond if you would like to reserve a kit 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 the second Friday of each month between 11am and 4pm. You take them home to assemble and then bring the completed sandwiches back on the following day, Saturday at 9:00am in front of Nativity for delivery. Please sign up today to help feed the homeless and hungry at Signup genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040549A4A72BA7F94-46859274-2ndsaturday>



Thank you August sandwich makers: Linda, Max and West Roehl, Owen, Ashton and Evan Flynn, Stan and Mary-Ann Speck, Carol Duvall and Michael Segal. Thank you to Thrivent for hosting this event and Linda Roehl for shopping, preparing and delivering.

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.

THIRD MONDAY SANDWICH MAKING

Our onsite sandwich making ministry will be Monday, September 16th 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.

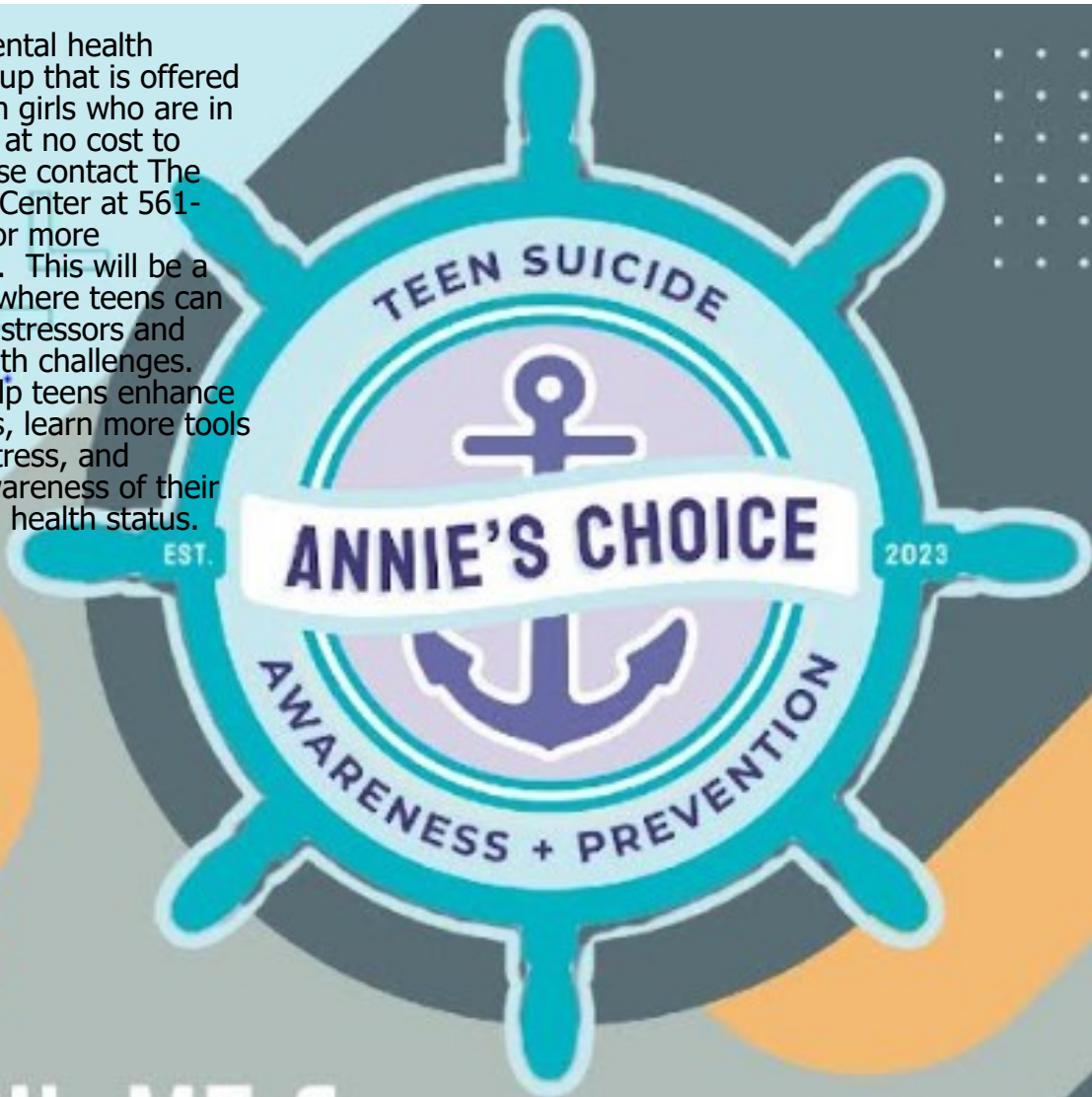
Thank you to August sandwich makers: Ceil Thomas, Kathy Brockelbank, Kari Donnelly, Tom Kuhn, Lakesa Ferguson, Pastor Steve Winsor, Charlie Beiser and Mike Moore. Also thank you to John & Nancy Steffen and Kathy B. for shopping and for Pastor Steve, Mike and Lakesa for delivering the finished sandwiches to St. George's. Thank you to Thrivent for funding our ministry.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

If you would like to help keep our feeding ministries alive, please write a 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.

This is a mental health support group that is offered to local teen girls who are in high school at no cost to them. Please contact The Counseling Center at 561-622-5423 for more information. This will be a safe space where teens can explore life stressors and mental health challenges. This can help teens enhance coping skills, learn more tools to handle stress, and increase awareness of their own mental health status.



YOU, ME & NOW

Support Group

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2024

DAYS/LOCATION TBA

In-Person & Online | A safe space for teens to speak freely and learn the facts of mental health. Text 561-676-8459 to reserve a spot!



Facilitated by

HEATHER TATE-BOLDT, LCSW

www.ccccpb.org



Meet M.Div Student: Mark Glazener



Mark Glazener with members of his congregation.



Mark Glazener with members of his congregation.

My Journey to Wartburg

My journey to Wartburg began in April 2021, during a period of personal discernment following my wife's passing. My pastor in Florida encouraged me to consider exploring new paths. After discussions about my calling and potential seminary options, my pastor, Steve Winsor, a Wartburg alumnus, recommended Wartburg based on my desire for community involvement. After conversations with the admissions counselor, I felt Wartburg was the perfect fit, and I have been pleased with my decision ever since.

Internship at St. Andrew Lutheran Church

I am currently interning at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Charlestown, Rhode Island, within the New England Synod. My duties include assisting in worship services, preaching, teaching confirmation classes and adult Bible study, planning worship and events, and serving on the stewardship team and budget committee. A significant project I'm involved in is building an outdoor sanctuary that includes a prayer labyrinth, organic garden, and memorial garden. This project is community-focused, and I have been actively participating in its various phases, from fundraising to planning and construction.

Embracing Permeable Edges

The St. Andrew's community believes strongly in creating a church environment that extends beyond the traditional boundaries of membership and Sunday services. It emphasizes inclusivity and community engagement through various activities and services that allow people to connect and feel part of the church community without needing to be formal members. For example, participating in yoga classes, food pantry services, or community dinners makes individuals part of the community. This approach seeks to reach out to more people, fostering connections and support networks within the community.

Outdoor Sanctuary Project

The outdoor sanctuary project is designed as a community initiative, not just for St. Andrew's. It aims to create a permanent worship space that can also serve multiple community functions such as funerals and weddings. The project includes building an organic garden, a prayer labyrinth, and a memorial garden. Fundraising and community involvement have been key components, and we have exceeded our financial goals. We are now in the clearing phase, preparing the site for construction, which will begin in early fall. The project has garnered significant support and involvement from local businesses and community members, highlighting our commitment to serving the broader community.

How Has Wartburg Prepared You for This Role?

Professor Samantha Gilmore and the preaching class really helped prepare me. Before I delivered my first sermon here on internship, the pastor took me aside and reassured me that this is a very forgiving congregation, that they show a lot of grace—all those things you would tell an intern on their very first sermon to reassure them. I had a normal amount of nerves leading up to it, but people told me afterward that I seemed so confident it seemed like I had been preaching for years. And I think having that preaching class and preparation was a direct influence to allow me to feel confident and step right into that role.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS MONTH TO:



9/5	Kathy Brockelbank
9/6	Audrey Laven
9/7	Jim Clark
9/9	Karen Kraatz
9/12	Nancy Morrissey
9/12	Denise Varlack-Joseph
9/13	Owen Flynn
9/15	Susannah Johnsen
9/17	Frank Lynch
9/18	Christopher Hoekstra
9/20	Moon

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY THIS MONTH TO:

9/20	Moon & Chere Jacobs
9/21	Dennis & Lou Johnson

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*.

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/>



September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9a Worship 10:30a Congregation Meeting	2 Labor Day Closed/No School 5:45p 12-step- FH	3 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 12-12:45p Tippy Toes 6p 12-step FH 7:30p 12-step- FH	4 8:45a Children's Chapel	5	6	7
8 9a Worship God's Work, Our Hands	9 9:30a Women's Love Circle 5:45p 12-step- FH	10 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 12-12:45p Tippy Toes 6p 12-step FH 7:30p 12-step- FH	11 8:45a Children's Chapel	12	13 11a-4pm Sandwich Kit pick up	14 9a Sandwich Kit drop off
15 9a Worship	16 9:30a Sandwich Making 5:45p 12-step- FH	17 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 12-12:45p Tippy Toes 6p 12-step FH 7:30p 12-step- FH	18 8:45a Children's Chapel	19	20	21 Parents' Night Out
22 9a Worship	23 5:45p 12-step- FH	24 9:30-10:30a Bibles, Bagels & Brew 12-12:45p Tippy Toes 6p 12-step FH 7:30p 12-step- FH	25 8:45a Children's Chapel	26	27	28
29 9a Worship	30 5:45p 12-step- FH					

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: 561 676-7361

Music Director:
Yinyu Li
yinyugrandpiano@gmail.com

Teachers:
Judy Novoa 2's Teacher
Theresa Saccone 3's Teacher
Sandra Calle, VPK Teacher
Caitlin Morrissey, VPK 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: Hollond Romaine
561-267-0543
hollondann45@gmail.com

Council Members at Large:

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

Micah Miller
407-415-7367
millermicah15@gmail.com

Denise Varlack Joseph
561-371-3035
varlack.de@gmail.com

OTHER CHURCH

Leaders

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

Women's Ministry: Ceil Thomas
bamacat7@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



God's work...

...Our hands



NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
4075 HOLLY DRIVE
PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL 33410
561-622-4998
Pbnativity.com