

# NATIVITY NEWS – MARCH 2024



Dear Nativity Lutheran Church,

We are only a number of days into Lent at this point, and I already feel exhausted. There are so many things to do that only a pastor, and a chaplain, and a husband to a pregnant wife can do. Sometimes it feels like the weight of the world is too heavy upon our shoulders, because all of us experience these challenges in our lives.

Lent is a time when we focus on this journey of being yoked not only to the different roles our lives call us to, but the journey God has set us on through the covenants that have been established with us. This talk of burdens and yokes always makes me recall that line in the Bible,

“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your inner selves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30)

This is great encouragement for the time of Lent. I hear this verse saying that learning under Jesus, being his disciple (a disciple, as clearly depicted here, is “one who learns”), lightens the burdens that are necessary for being pastors, mothers, teachers, citizens, etc. Such rest is welcome in a time of taking heavy steps.

I encouraged the hearers of my last sermon to consider what they have been learning lately during this time of Lent. I will ask you to do this yet again, and to also share it in a conversation with me so that I can accompany you in your Lenten journeys.

+Shalom,  
Pastor Taylor



Nativity is joining Ascension on Wednesday Evenings for Lenten suppers at 6:15 PM and Services at 7:00 PM. Sign up sheets are posted on the table in the narthex for anyone needing transportation or can furnish a ride.



**Order Your Easter Lily by March 17th** - Just place your order form in honor or in memory of a friend or loved one with the \$10 lily payment in the offering plate. **Order forms are in the pews and on a table in the narthex.**



**The Congregational meeting to amend the constitution will be held on March 17<sup>th</sup> 2024.** This is a very short meeting to approve the amendment of the term of secretary as outlined in the February 11<sup>th</sup> letter from Michael Freiman, President. We hope all members can be in attendance.



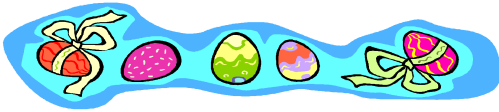
There will be a Potluck luncheon Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> following the Congregational Meeting to celebrate St Patrick Day. Please plan to attend and enjoy the food and fellowship.



*"I am certain in my heart that all that I am, I have received from God."*

*- Saint Patrick*

This St. Patrick's Day, let's celebrate all of our blessings by remembering the women and children at CVP. Please take a four-leaf clover "lucky coin" for the Center for Violence Protection women's and children's shelter. Nativity is one of the shelter's few resources for day to day paper/laundry/cleaning supply needs. Please bring the needed item listed on the coin to church by Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. *Thank you for your generosity, The Nativity Social Ministry Committee*



### **NATIVITY ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

will be held on **Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.** Both family and friends of the Nativity family are invited to attend. There will be an area for infant/toddler under three and a separate area for the older children ages 3 to 12. The older children can look for the silver egg for a special prize. Please plan to join us for this fun activity.



Wednesday at Noon Bible Study will continue through the Lenten season. Come join in the lively discussions and learning sessions

**\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ Don't forget to direct Choice Dollars® \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$**

**Don't let Choice Dollars expire.**

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31, 2024,

to direct any remaining 2023 Choice Dollars.

Help support Nativity Lutheran Church.

Go to [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more.

Or call 800-847-4836

and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



### **March & April Birthdays**

Cassandra Braband	3/01
Joe Hunt	3/01
Renate Hunt	3/10
Dave Braband	3/10
Pastor Scott	3/24
Derek Stevens	3/27
Bud Weisser	4/01
Barb Balsley	4/02
James Thatch	4/02
Carol Gallagher	4/04

### **Anniversaries**

Keith & Pat Anderson	3/10
Tommy & Lynn Templeton	3/25
Joe & Renate Hunt	4/06
Dan & Jan Behringer	4/22

If you wish to participate, please look for the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex and provide your birthday and/or anniversary **month & day only** by your name so we can wish you a Happy Day!

**Happy Birthday & Anniversary to All !!**

### **Nativity Prayer List**



*Please pray for:*

Tom Loland, Hack Walston, Arnie Wheeler, Cyndia Devries,  
Barbara Barnes, Olivia Peters, Bobbie Cage and Tim & Pheobe Segal.

## MARCH 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 3	9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:30 AM Service of the Word
March 6	Noon Bible Study - Nativity 6:15 PM Lenten Service and Supper at Ascension in Jackson
March 10	9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:30 AM Service with Holy Communion Daylight Saving time begins
March 12	10 AM Ladies Coffee & Devotional
March 13	Noon Bible Study- Nativity 6:15 PM Lenten Service and Supper at Ascension in Jackson
March 17	9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:30 AM Service with Holy Communion Congregational Meeting following the service Pot Luck following meeting
March 20	Noon Bible Study - Nativity 6:15 PM Lenten Service and Supper at Ascension in Jackson
March 24	9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:30 AM Palm Sunday Service with Holy Communion
March 26	10 AM Ladies Coffee & Devotional
March 28	7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service
March 29	7:30 PM Good Friday Service
March 30	10:30 AM Egg Hunt
March 31	9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:30 Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion

## **NLC March, 2024 Volunteer List for Services**

### **March 3**

Kitchen – Ellie Halverson  
Greeters – Stephen Braatz  
Ushers – Renate Hunt & Dave Braband  
Lector – John Halverson  
Service Leader – Sandy Bettiga  
Nursery – Pamela Kirby  
Counters – Cindy Braatz & Sue Caldwell  
Altar Care – Leavell Family

### **March 10**

Kitchen – Ruth Burgess  
Greeters – Kadee Knighton  
Ushers – Kathy Peters & Mitch Leavell  
Lector – Carol Gallagher  
Comm. Asst. – David Braband  
Nursery – Lynn Templeton  
Counters – Leavell Family  
Altar Care – Leavell Family

### **March 17**

Kitchen – Ellie Halverson  
Greeters – Barbara Barnes  
Ushers – Bettiga Family  
Lector – John Halverson  
Comm. Asst. – John Halverson  
Nursery – Pamela Kirby  
Counters – Bettiga Family  
Altar Care – Leavell Family

### **March 24 – Palm Sunday**

Kitchen – Kathy Peters  
Greeters – Jim & Pat Moulds  
Ushers – Keith Anderson/Tommy Templeton  
Lector – Beau Bettiga  
Comm. Asst. – Cindy Braatz  
Nursery – Lynn Templeton  
Counters – Keith Anderson/ Lynn Templeton  
Altar Care – Leavell Family

### **March 28 - Maundy Thursday**

Greeters – Mitch Leavell  
Ushers – Halverson Family  
Lector – Joe Hunt  
Comm. Asst. – Joe Hunt  
Nursery – Pamela Kirby  
Altar Care – Leavell Family

### **March 29– Good Friday**

Greeters – Lynn Templeton  
Leader– TBD  
Nursery – Lynn Templeton

### **March 31 - Easter Sunday**

Kitchen – Ruth Burgess  
Greeters – Sandy Bettiga  
Ushers – Tony Caldwell & Rick Kirby  
Lector – Ruth Burgess  
Comm. Asst. – Keith Anderson  
Nursery – Pamela Kirby  
Counters – Cindy Braatz & Sue Caldwell  
Altar Care – Leavell Family

*If you cannot serve on the dates shown, please try to swap with someone and let the office know of the change. Thank You.*