

# Prayer Requests

December 28-January 5

## Prayer Request

- Private Pastoral Prayer
- Public Prayer (Prayer Sheet)

Prayer Requests (personal, community, world):

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Full Name:

Phone:

Email:

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## Opportunities for Generosity

Nativity, thank you for your generosity! Giving can be a meaningful part of our spiritual practice during this season of celebrating Christ’s birth. Forms can be found at the Welcome Desk and on our church website at [NativityChurch.org/Give](http://NativityChurch.org/Give).

## Building Belonging Update

We are 70% of the way toward our campaign goal! Thanks to each of the 182 families who have made a commitment. To reach the goal, we anticipate needing another 100 families to participate. Learn more about Nativity’s Campaign at the QR Code here or [NativityChurch.org/Building-Belonging](http://NativityChurch.org/Building-Belonging).



## Year-End Giving

As you make final arrangements for your 2024 giving, we invite you to make a special year-end gift to Nativity. Donations to the general ministry or the Building Belonging Campaign can be made by check (postmarked on or before the 31st), via Venmo @NativityLutheran, or at [NativityChurch.org/Give](http://NativityChurch.org/Give).



## 2025 Plan for Giving

Already 157 families have shared their plan to support Nativity’s ministry in 2025. Thank you! If you haven’t had the chance to complete your Plan for Giving form, please consider doing so.

Your giving makes it possible for the Nativity community to bring hope to people of all ages every day. Thank you.

Questions? Contact Beth Schuman at [Beth@NativityChurch.org](mailto:Beth@NativityChurch.org).

December 28-January 5, 2024



# Nativity Lutheran Church

## NEWS TO NOTE

[www.nativitychurch.org](http://www.nativitychurch.org)



### CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS AT NATIVITY!

We’re grateful for the gift of celebrating Christmas in community! Thank you for being part of Christmas worship together and for offering a warm welcome to so many guests and visitors. If you missed our Christmas worship (or if you’d like to enjoy the music and message again!), you can watch online anytime at [NativityChurch.org/Sermons](http://NativityChurch.org/Sermons).

### APPRECIATING OUR VOLUNTEERS!

A special thank you to everyone in the Nativity community who shared their gifts of time, care, and hospitality. We appreciate the incredible volunteers behind our evergreens and birch trees, sanctuary and commons decor, outdoor planters, sidewalk safety, worship assistance, hospitality, setup and clean-up. We appreciate your welcoming gifts and how they made such a difference to many this Christmas.

### A SUCCESSFUL “SWEETS FOR SHARING”!

Thank you, Nativity, for making the 2024 Sweets for Sharing a success! We appreciate the dozens of volunteers who baked and delivered 120+ tins and our high school crew who packed up treats for each recipient. Sweets for Sharing is a long tradition at Nativity and a simple way to share the love of God! Thank you to all our volunteers and to the whole Nativity community for supporting each other.



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[churchoffice@nativitychurch.org](mailto:churchoffice@nativitychurch.org) | 612.781.2766  
[www.nativitychurch.org](http://www.nativitychurch.org)   



We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.  
[ReconcilingWorks.org](http://ReconcilingWorks.org)

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# Nativity Lutheran Church

## Joining Weekend

January 25-26

Are you interested in making Nativity Church your official faith home? We would love to have you join us no matter where you are on your faith journey. January 25-26 will be a time when many households will join at the same time. You can choose to join publicly during the 9:00 am or 10:30 am worship hour or privately afterwards. Joining Nativity involves making a declaration of intent and filling out a membership form.

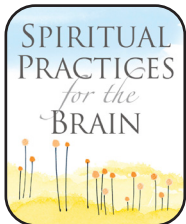
Contact Joanne Griffin, Minister of Belonging, at [Joanne@NativityChurch.org](mailto:Joanne@NativityChurch.org) for more information.



## Gratitude from Global Outreach!

Steve and Nancy Laible, as part of Nativity's Global Outreach, have organized a travel team that we will be visiting Santa Cruz, Costa Rica, in March of 2025. Through Nativity, funds have been raised to support a daycare center in Santa Cruz that provides low-cost daycare to families where the mother is working or attending school. In many cases, the families are low-income single-parent homes.

The Santa Cruz Daycare Center in Costa Rica sends the Nativity community holiday greetings and a heartfelt "thank you" for the Global Outreach grant supporting child



## Thursday Book Group: New Book

January 9 | Thursdays 9:30-11:00 In Person and Online

The Thursday Book Conversations group invites you to join us for our next book: *Spiritual Practices for the Brain: Caring for Mind, Body, and Soul* by Anne Kertz Kernion.

For centuries, spiritual and meditative practices have helped people become more calm, focused, and happy. Christian saints such as John of the Cross and Teresa of Avila encouraged habits of the heart and soul. In *Spiritual Practices for the Brain*, Anne Kertz Kernion relies on the most current research to link spiritual practices to improved health, with powerful results for your mind, body, and soul.

All are welcome to join us. For questions or Zoom link, contact Julie Bonde at [madjules@gmail.com](mailto:madjules@gmail.com).

## SAVE THE DATE

- January 4-5 . . . . Epiphany
- January 18-19 . . . . Agape Worship
- January 20 . . . . . Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 25-26 . . . . . Joining Weekend & RIC Weekend
- February . . . . . Racial Equity & Justice (REJM) Outreach Month
- February 8 . . . . . Annual Meeting
- February 22 . . . . . Rainfall Valentine's Concert
- March . . . . . Food & Hunger Outreach Month
- March 5 . . . . . Ash Wednesday

More events and activities to be announced soon!

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## Join Us for Agape Worship

January 18-19 | All Worship Hours

Nativity will celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. at all worship hours January 18-19. We'll include music from the beloved Agape worship, formerly part of our Maundy Thursday worship.



## Rainfall Valentine's Day Concert

Saturday, Feb. 22, 7:00-8:30 pm | Nativity

Celebrate with Rainfall's music of love, faith, and life, featuring original songs and traditional favorites, including a sing-along! Rainfall's (and Nativity's) Mike Forsberg, Duane Johnson, and Lee Gilbertson welcome special guests Freda Myhrwold, Paige Buck, and Becca Williams in original gospel and more.

## GETTING CONNECTED

### First & Last Names of those attending:

Adults:

Children:

Email address:

Home phone:

Cell phone:

Address:

City, state, zip:

- Regular attender       Visiting (circle one  
 New                      With A Friend | With Family  
    Trying Out Nativity | Other:

### Worship Service Attended:

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| December 28, Saturday            | December 29, Sunday               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5:30 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 am  |
|                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 10:30 am |

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|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| January 4, Saturday              | January 5, Sunday                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5:30 pm | <input type="checkbox"/> 9:00 am  |
|                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 10:30 am |

### I would like to be contacted about:

- Thursday Book Conversations
- Global Outreach
- Shared Ministry
- Wednesday Community Meals
- Joining Weekend
- Giving to Nativity
- Receive Nativity's Weekly E-newsletter