



Northwood Presbyterian Church
 2875 State Road 580
 Clearwater, FL 33761
 A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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Spotlight on Deacons' Ministries

Hurricane Season 2020

The Hurricane Ministry of our church's Board of Deacons assists members in need of temporary housing during hurricanes or severe tropical storms. If you are in need of emergency housing during or after a storm – or if you are able to share your home with members-in-need – please contact Eleanor Cicerchi at ecicerchi@gmail.com or 607-382-1781. You may also contact the Rev. Paul Means at 727-796-8090 or communications@northwoodpc.org.

When calling to ask for emergency housing, please provide your **name, best contact information, number of people needing accommodation, the number and type of pets you have, and any special needs.** If emailing to offer housing, please use the subject "Hurricane Volunteer" and include your name, address, phone number, email address, number of people you can accommodate and whether you have pets or can accept them. If you know your evacuation zone, please include that.

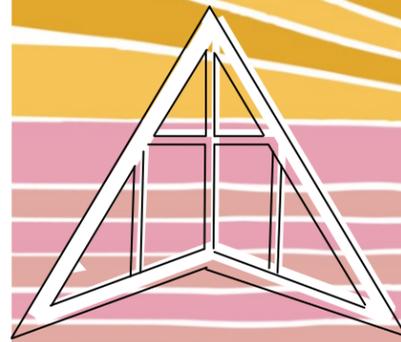
Note that the Pinellas County Department of Health maintains a **special needs evacuation database** of people who are mobility or otherwise impaired and may need assistance during a hurricane. Local fire/rescue departments call people on that list before an emergency and assist with evacuation. To put your name or that of a family member on the list, call 727-784-8668.

This year, because of the pandemic, the Pinellas County Office of Emergency Management will have more than 100 emergency shelters in North Pinellas, instead of the usual four. Your local fire/rescue department can help you find a shelter if that is needed.

Finally, the best advice for all of us is to be prepared. One helpful resource is baynews9.com. Click on "Weather, then "Hurricane Center," to find weather advisories, maps of evacuation zones and routes, and checklists for your family and pets.

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The Window

Chartering Organization of Boy Scout Troop 413

August 2020
 Volume 30, No. 7

2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761
 727-796-8090 Main Office ~ 727-723-7679 Preschool, Before & After Care
www.northwoodpc.org

Letter from the Pastor

Dear Members and Friends of Northwood,

With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and high transmission rate in Florida, all in-person worship at Northwood Presbyterian Church continues to be suspended. We continue to offer livestreaming on Sunday mornings of our 9:30 (contemporary) and 11:00 am (traditional) worship services through both the church's website and Facebook page.

I can share with you that after some time of study and prayer the Worship Team of Northwood recommended to our Session the adoption of comprehensive guidelines for us to use when we are able to return to in-person worship. Our Session has adopted these guidelines and set up an eight-person Commission in charge of implementing them for when in-person worship for us is possible. I will be sharing these guidelines with you in the coming weeks and some of the thoughtful work already being done by the Commission. Members of the Commission are as follows: Polly Brown, Jackie Koski (Vice Chair), Curtis Krueger, Raymond Linville, Keith Nadig, Will Parker (Chair), Cookie Roffey, and Bailey Shields (Secretary).

When our congregation is able to resume *in-person worship*, please know that we will do so through a careful process of discussion and discernment, with an abundance of caution and concern for those who are most vulnerable, upon consideration of the best scientific knowledge at our disposal, in the spirit of constant prayer. In other words, as I have said repeatedly, we will return to in-person worship not too fast or too slow but when the time is right and there is much less risk of transmission of the virus.

Finally, thank you to all who continue to make your financial gifts as we seek to be faithful to God and to one another and work through the challenges of this time in the life of our congregation and world.

Your Pastor and Friend,

Chris

At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

August 2020

Sunday, August 2:
9:30 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

Sunday, August 9:
9:30 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

Sunday, August 16:
9:30 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

Sunday, August 23:
9:30 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

Sunday, August 30:
9:30 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

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Staff members are available to answer any questions you might have regarding church related programs.

Chris Curvin, Pastor
Paul Means, Associate Pastor
Stephanie Carson, Music
Tom Huffman, Music
Justine Davis, Children and Preschool
Rosalie Bradford, Youth and Families
Chris Hurst, Business Administrator
Linda O'Leary, Bookkeeper
Emily Cantin, Director of Communications

The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church
Edited by Emily Cantin

Submissions:
If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, e-mail communications@northwoodpc.org, or place it in Emily Cantin's box in the church office. The deadline is the 3rd Monday of the month.

Around Northwood



Drop and Drive

The "Drop and Drive" food and baby items collection took place on Saturday, May 30th at Northwood from 9:00 a.m. until noon in the parking lot. The Mission and Outreach committee members participated in the collection and used all safety protocols while unloading the vehicles. Marsha Rimer, the executive director of the Bay Area Pregnancy Center arrived at noon to pick up the baby items and was impressed by the amount that had been donated. The items were loaded into her SUV with no room to spare. The church van was loaded with the food donations and then delivered to RCS on Monday, June 1st. The donations amounted to 873 pounds of food which equated to 742 meals!!! Thank you Northwood for your outstanding generosity during these difficult times.



Congratulations to Scholarship Recipients!

The Scholarship team met by phone on Tuesday, June 9, 2020. Congratulations to the following students who were awarded scholarships:

First time applicants: David Hamilton, Jarrett Mattson, Lindsey Peterson and Heather Wood.

Second year recipients: Andrew Booth and Amy Kemerer

Amy Kemerer was selected as the Clarence and Florence Wright Scholarship recipient.

Funds Provided by: Fred and Kay Baker Scholarship, Walter and Catherine Gordon Scholarship, Clarence and Florence Wright Scholarship, monies received from other sources.

Important Calendar Information

Many meetings have gone to an online platform. However, if your team/committee wishes to meet in person (with physical distance and masks), please check the church calendar online at www.northwoodpc.org to be sure your event/meeting is still listed. Many meeting spaces have been expanded to meet physical distance requirements and a room previously reserved might have been reassigned to a group that has made a new request for in person meeting space.



Congratulations!



Congratulations to Melanie and Wagner Schulz on the birth of their son Ethan Johann Schulz born on June 16th. Melanie is the daughter of members Rachelle and Jerry Cox and has played violin in cantatas and other special services at Northwood.

Congratulations to Laura & Kevin O'Leary on the birth of their son Liam Michael born on June 25th. And congratulations to the Grandparents, Linda & Mike O'Leary, Max & Pat Bygrave and Great Grandparents Pete & Evelyn Towns.

Your Giving Matters

Even when we can't be together, your giving matters. We want to continue being the church in our community and to each and every one of you in the days ahead. Your continued faithfulness to the mission and ministry of Northwood through your giving is critical as the church's expenses do not stop. Please commit to maintain your regular schedule of giving throughout this time by mailing your gift or using one of the online platforms below for giving electronically:

1. Text NPCHURCH to 73256 and follow the prompts.
2. Visit www.northwoodpc.org and click on the giving tab.
3. Click "Give" under the *ChurchLife* app menu options.

Email Scam Alert

You may be aware that some of our members have received scam emails in the past month, and once over a year ago, that appear to be from Pastor Chris. The emails request financial support in the form of gift cards. Our pastor does NOT send these emails although the email address is very similar to his. This email scam is also happening to pastors in other churches in our area. Please know that your pastors and the church staff will never solicit any funds in this manner. Simply forward the message to the church office so they can be collected for the police. It saddens us when anyone seeks to do harm but especially when they prey on the kindness and Christ-like hearts of our members.

All Church Retreat & Women's Retreat—Save the Dates!



Something to look forward to! Please save these Cedarkirk dates on your calendar! The All-Church Retreat will be held on Oct. 23-25, 2020 and the Women's Retreat will be held on Feb. 19-21, 2021.

NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Presbyterian Mission Engagement & Support

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the ways in which you have helped to lift others through your generous support of \$250 and sharing the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ in both word and deed. Blessings, Sy Hughes, Mission Engagement & Support

Thornwell

You are a vital part of our mission and are transforming the lives of children and families! Thank you for your contribution of \$728. Your kindness provides safe and loving homes for children who have been abused, neglected and abandoned. You bring hope to a brighter future for struggling families. Sincerely, Rev. Elliot Smith, President

RCS

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1500 to benefit the RCS Home Mission, the RCS Food Bank, and your spectacular donation of 92 pounds of food! Your gift creates an immediate and positive impact in our community while helping us and our volunteers to continue the RCS mission. We appreciate you! Kirk Ray Smith, President & CEO

Metropolitan Ministries

Your generous gift of \$298 has already been put to work to help those in desperate need. Thank you for keeping Metropolitan Ministries in mind as we fight this pandemic and help hurting families together.

With gratitude, Tim Marks, President & CEO

Bridging Freedom

Thank you so much for your contribution to Bridging Freedom! We are encouraged with your partnership to help bring prevention awareness and a healing campus to our children. Kind Regards, Angeline Wade

Clearwater Free Clinic

Thank you for your very generous support of \$250 for the Clearwater Free Clinic. You help us continue to serve so many families in need! Yours in Health, Jeannie Shapiro

HEP

We graciously acknowledge your generous gift of \$250 in support of HEP programs. Your donation will help the lives of homeless and very low income families who need help throughout the year. Ashley Lowery, President & CEO

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:

Mimi Judd
Jane Urban
Brian McNay
Mimi Judd
Raymond Bailey
Fred Drew
Jane Urban
Mimi Judd
Fred Drew

Nancy Ericson
Marian & Bill Justice
Nancy Ericson
Nancy Ericson

Given by:

Art & Jeanette Holloway
Blanche Marshall
Terrence & Wilai McNay
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Joanne & Fred Inkles
Joanne & Fred Inkles
Joanne & Fred Inkles

Linda Ciokan
Jean Swintek
Lorrie Janusik
Jean Swintek

In Honor of:

Michael Cromwell

Given by:

Emily McMullen

Prayers and Christian sympathies to:

- Garry Justice & family upon the news of the death of his mother, Marian Justice on May 28 and his father William "Bill" Justice on June 24.
- Steve Fisher & family upon the news of the death of his father, Don Fisher on May 30.
- Wally Ericson & family upon the news of the death of his wife, Nancy Ericson on June 22.
- Roy Jackson & family upon the news of the death of his wife, Pat Jackson on July 10.
- Polly Hamilton & family upon the news of the death of her sister, Jane Gibson Noonan on July 11.
- Marti Huff & family upon the news of the death of her brother, Fred Ryder on July 20.
- David Nelson & family upon the news of the death of his father, Captain Albert Nelson on July 20.

Prayer Ministry

Bill Allen, Ken Andreassen, Carol Anderson, Julie Bryant, Sue GaVette, Shirley Gleason, Lyn Heider, Jeri Heycock, Fred Inkles, Joyce Klotz, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Charlotte McQuown, Norman Phillips, David Smith, Gene Snyder, Al & Ethel Holden, Bonnie Beyer, Don Drummond, Ruth White.

Christian Education

Children's Ministry



Prayer, Joys and Concerns

Each Sunday we will be worshipping online at both 9:30 & 11:00am. The Ignite contemporary service has a time of "prayers, joys and concerns" where people individually offer prayer requests. While worshipping via livestream we wanted to make that possible. If you have a "prayers, joys or concerns" request you would like lifted up at the 9:30am service, please go online to our homepage at www.northwoodpc.org and click on "Prayer Request" under the "Resources" tab. Just remember that these prayer requests may be shared via livestream. If anything is private, do not submit it for sharing this way. We will share as many as the time permits.

Experiencing God Class

If you'd like to join the Experiencing God class virtually via Zoom at 10:30am on Sunday mornings, please contact Vicki Krueger at vickilee33@aol.com and she will send you the meeting details each week.

Wednesday Bible Study

The Sunday Bible study has moved to Wednesdays and is meeting on Zoom. The group is studying the book of Ecclesiastes. If you'd like to join the Wednesday Bible Study that meets on Wednesdays at 7:00pm, please email Cindy Huffman at lucindy1@aol.com and she will forward you the Zoom link. All are welcome!

Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed will start a new book on Friday September 4th at 10:30am. The new book will be "Deeply Rooted; Knowing Self, Growing in God" by Christopher Marcie.

The current plan is to meet through Zoom. Please contact Louise Mylin for a Zoom code and if you have any questions (727) 787-9868.

Virtual Brown Bag Bible Study on Livestream and Facebook Live

We will resume on Thursday, August 6th at noon. Pastor Paul will begin a new ten week study looking at the Old Testament Book of Job. This Old Testament book wrestles with the ongoing, unchanging human realities of deep suffering and sorrow and overwhelming pain and loss. "It is the story of one man who held on to his life in God with a faith that survived the torments of utter loss and expanded into new realms of wonder and delight." Join us as we seek, by God's grace, to grow in faith, hope and love in the midst of life's unpredictable and varied circumstances.

VIRTUAL FAITH BUILDING
OPPORTUNITY FOR
COLLEGE AGE & UP

*Roundtable Class & Support Group
with Professor Michael T. Jahosky*

FRIDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM
& SUNDAY EVENINGS AT 7PM VIA ZOOM

This is a "Round Table" discussion where we can talk about God in our current situations, and ask questions freely.

"The Unseen Realm" by Michael Heiser. Reading this book is not required, but if you would like to read it during our class you can purchase it on Amazon

Zoom Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IHfjczGEv9yClqBu1J3rr7r8l8WjAnQr/view?usp=sharing> Contact Michael (321)626-6335 or mjahosky@gmail.com or our Youth and Families Director, Rosalie (727)400-9079 or bradfordrosalie@gmail.com if you have any questions or need directions on how to set up Zoom.

- Children's Ministry is sending out personal notes to the children of Northwood so watch for your note in the mail. If you want to receive a note for your child or grandchild contact Justine Davis at childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.
- Please be sure to check out and "like" the Children's Ministry Facebook group. Each week we will have a children's Bible lesson posted along with other activities. https://www.facebook.com/groups/633579497423839/?source_id=263480270372443

Kids' Corner Preschool Registration

Registration is currently open for the 2020-2021 school year! We have openings in our 2's, 3's, and VPK. Please share the news! If you are interested in a tour of the school, please contact Justine Davis at 727-723-7679 or schooldirector@northwoodpc.org or to set up an appointment.



Follow us
@CitylightNPC

What's Going on in Citylight

Even though we have been socially distant, we have grown tremendously as a group through the pandemic. Our youth lessons have been communicated via email, Zoom, Teams, Facebook, Instagram, and more! We have had some awesome Bible studies, virtual movies, trivia, and game nights.

We've continued our virtual meetings and added some small group in-person events! We went to the beach, had an outdoor movie night, served at Feeding Tampa Bay's mobile pantry and did some deep cleaning in the youth room. July was supposed to be filled with our summer trips, however, the pandemic decided otherwise. We are still hoping to go on our Challenge to Change Mission Trip at Cedarkirk later this upcoming school year. We also plan to add a 2 night youth retreat in addition to our yearly overnight events when the time is right. Northwood's Annual All-Church Retreat to Cedarkirk is scheduled for October 23rd-25th, we hope you can make it! Our annual youth retreat to Cedarkirk is still planned for November 13th-15th. A sign up will go out in early September. I always tell the youth that "God takes what's broken and turns it into something beautiful". I think that the changes in our summer plans will lead to some creative opportunities for some school year trips as well as lead us to an unforgettable summer of 2021 mission experience. If you have paid fees to a summer trip and would like to request a refund, please do before September. If you would like your paid fees moved to next summer's trips, no action is required.

On an exciting note, we closed our 2020 Giving Wall Fundraiser! We are so grateful for all of the donations, letters of encouragement and prayers. We fundraised \$5200.00 to go towards our summer trips! Since our summer didn't play out as we hoped, these funds will be moved to next summer's trip expenses and scholarship fund. Our mission is to support and transform youth into lifelong disciples of Christ through the Fruits of the Spirit, relationships, theological education and service. This ministry would not be possible without the support of members of our congregation like you. Please stay tuned for we would like to thank you in a special way!

In the meantime, please pray for the safety and well being of our community, and the impact COVID-19 will have on people physically, emotionally and financially. Please continue to participate in our virtual ministry; providing ideas, prayers and good spirits. As your Director of Youth & Families, my job is to always support you especially during times like these. Please reach out with your prayers, needs and concerns.

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." -Philippians 4:6-7

Rosalie Bradford
Director of Youth & Family Ministries