

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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Sent with Prayer to...

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 <u>www.northwoodpc.org</u> and click on the giving tab.
- 3. Click Give under the ChurchLife App menu options
- 4. Scan the QR code below with your smartphone's camera and click the link





Music Ministry Annual Garage Sale—May 28-29

We are so happy to let you know we will be having our 2021 Garage Sale on Friday, May 28^a and Saturday, May 29th. Your donations and the donations you request from family and friends are so important to the success of the sale. For all of those who have provided many generous items during the past year, we thank you. We will be accepting your donations on the following days and times in the Family Life Center:

May 15 – May 21 - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. May 22 – May 26 – 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

We cannot accept older electronics, TV's, household, entertainment centers or furniture that is not in 'new' condition. Everything else is most welcome clothes, jewelry, furniture, linens, fine collectibles, holiday, books, tools, outdoor, etc. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up, sorting, cashiering, security, and clean-up. Please call Susan or e-mail her if you can help (727) 709-8237 or susankcurry@verizon.net.



This Month at Northwood

Sunday, May 2: 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, May 9: Easter Sunday 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, May 16: 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, May 23: Pentecost 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Friday & Saturday, May 28-29: Garage Sale 8:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 30: Trinity Sunday 9:00 A.M. In-Person IGNITE Service 11:00 A.M. In-Person Traditional Service

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 Rosalie Bradford, Youth and Families Laura Garcia, Director of Schools Chris Hurst, Business Administrator Linda O'Leary, Bookkeeper Emily Cantin, Director of Communications

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Slance May 2021

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.

Get Involved

Dear Members and Friends of Northwood:

I wanted to let all of you know that this week the Human Resources Committee of the Session and I received a letter of resignation from Tom Huffman, our Associate Director of Music/Organist because of personal matters relating to his family.

I share with you a portion of the sincere and personal letter Tom wrote about his decision to resign:

There is a musical setting of Jeremiah 29:11 that I have had our youth choirs sing: "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." I claim that scripture for me and my family and pray that Northwood, too, will have a future with hope.

Like you, I will personally miss Tom. He is one of the finest organists, I have known in now 35 years of ministry who has been deeply dedicated to planning and offering effective worship and music to the glory of God.

While he has been most visible as the organist in the traditional service for nearly a decade of ministry, he also has been an important leader in our youth music programs and has contributed in many other ways. And of course, his wife Cindy, is an active church member with many years of service to Northwood.

We understand and respect the reasons for Tom's decision, and we wish him and his family the very best for the future. We will miss him. I encourage you to reach out to Tom with cards or phone calls if you would like to share your appreciation for his music and friendship with us.

Thanks to all of you for your continued prayers, support and for following Northwood's guidelines of wearing masks and practicing social distancing as we return to in-person worship.

E. Chris Curvin

Senior Pastor, Northwood Presbyterian Church On behalf of the entire Human Resources Committee of our Session

Summer Music Workshop—June 14-20, 2021

The Workshop planning committee of the Fellowship is working hard to produce a unique five day experience this summer for adults and youth—both in person and virtual. Adults and youth will be singing together, there will be handbells, daily worship, specialty classes, instrumental ensembles and more, and it will all be done with safety in mind.

Northwood will again be supporting those wishing to attend with substantial financial assistance from the garage sale proceeds. If you are interested in attending, please contact Stephanie Carson at stephanie@northwoodpc.com. If you want more information, especially on the COVID protocols that will be followed, go to the FL Fellowship website at floridafummwa.org. Registration will be opening soon, but don't register on your own. We will register for you and apply the appropriate discounts. Any questions, check with Stephanie Carson.



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Northwood Photo Group

The Photo Group has been meeting remotely on the second Tuesday of every month via Zoom since the pandemic and will have its regular monthly meeting Tuesday, May 11th at 7:00pm. If you are inter-

ested in "attending" our monthly discussion on photography, please contact

david@primeimagesinc.com or curtis.krueger@gmail.com and we'll send you the Zoom link for the meeting.



Hurricane Ministry

The Hurricane Ministry of our church's Board of Deacons assists members in need of temporary housing during or after hurricanes or severe tropical storms. If you are able to share your home with members-in-need, please contact Mickey Stewart at walkey1a@outlook.com or the church office at 727-796-8090. If emailing, please use the subject "Hurricane Volunteer." Please include your name, address, phone number, email address, number of people you can accommodate, and whether you have pets.

With hurricane season approaching, we are all encouraged to prepare for a possible storm. A source for weather advisories is:

https://www.baynews9.com/fl/tampa/weather.

This guide has valuable information for Pinellas County http://www.pinellascounty.org/emergency/.

Window Newsletter Volunteers Needed

The Window Newsletter Crew is in need of a few volunteers to help fold once a month. The group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:00am in rooms 4 & 6 of the Christian Education building. If you're interested, please contact Emily Cantin at communications@northwoodpc.org.

NORTHWOOD SCHOLARSHIP **APPLICATION TIME**

NPC members who are high school seniors, college/ vocational students or grad students are encouraged to pick up guidelines/applications from Emily Cantin, online, or in the church office now. Applications must be returned to JoAnne Spigarelli at jpspig1@tampabay.rr.com. Applications must be received by June 1, 2021. Applicants need to be involved in the life of the church (either here or at college/Seminary). This scholarship can only be received twice. We give thanks to the Bakers, Gordons, Wrights and others whose generosity to Northwood was reflected in their last will and testament. Scholarship funds come from interest earned from the following: (1) The Fred and Kay Baker Scholarship Fund, (2) The Walter and Catherine Gordon Educational Endowment, (3) Clarence and Florence Wright Scholarship Fund, (4) Monies received from other sources.

Applications must be received by June 1, 2021

Northwood Food Pantry

The Northwood Presbyterian Food Pantry is a mission that is supported totally by monetary gifts and donated non-perishable food from the congregation. Dedicated volunteers purchase food and also fill bags that are then given out to those less fortunate residents that come to the church for help.

The need in our own community is overwhelming now during this Covid-19 pandemic. Northwood depends on the generous support from all of us in order to sustain this ever growing demand. Please help us continue this important mission by donating whatever you can and as a caring congregation we together can feed the multitudes as Christ did.

Thank you for your faithful support of this ministry and mission of Northwood Presbyterian Church.

Food Pantry items needed:

Canned Meat Pasta Sauce Beef Stew Chili Beef Ravioli Spaghetti Sauce Peanut Butter Jelly Tuna Soup Canned Vegetables Canned Fruit



NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Thornwell

Thank you! You're changing lives! Your generosity of \$325 will provide hope and healing to hurting families in communities across Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Because of your kindness, we can provide safe homes for neglected children, family support and in-home therapy for families and so much more. Sincerely, Rev. Elliot M. Smith

Habitat for Humanity

Thank you for your generous gift of \$320 toward our next faith build. Thanks to donors like you, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas and West Pasco counties is able to continue building safe, affordable homes for hard working members of our community. Sincerely, Mike Sutton, President & CEO

Heifer

Of all the communities you could choose, I am so grateful you have chosen to be a part of the Heifer community. Your thoughtful contribution will provide rural farming families with lifechanging animals and education, enabling them to earn enough money to feed their children-even during the ongoing hunger crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

With Gratitude, Pierre U. Ferrari, President & CEO



Dear Northwood Family, I want to thank you for your cards, calls and prayers during my recent surgery and ongoing recovery. I never realized how many friends I have at Northwood. These cards, calls and prayers have brought me closer to God. God Bless all of you! Jerry Koski

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.

Caring for Our JPCh a

Memorial Gifts \sim

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In Memory of:

Joe Zeigler Becky Sharp Abby Andres Becky Sharp Garrick Langenheim Walter Stewart Charlotte McQuown Lvn Heider Charlotte McQuown Charlotte McOuown

Given by: Dennis & Sandra Rasmussen Art & Jeanette Holloway Art & Jeanette Holloway Eleanor Cicerchi Mary Torrisi Bill & Patty Martin Bill & Patty Martin Jean Swintek Jean Swintek Jean Swintek

Praver Ministry

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

Pravers for our Military Families



If you have an immediate family member in the military that you would like added to our prayer list, please contact the church office, 727-796-8090.

Pravers and Christian sympathies to:

- Faye Mackie upon the news of the death of her mother, Lily Namba on March 16.
- Pat Callan upon the news of the death of her sister, Meg Peterson, on March 21.
- Mickey Stewart upon the news of the death of her husband, Walter Stewart on March 26.
- Fred McQuown upon the news of the death of his wife Charlotte McQuown on March 29.

Medicine Bottles

If you have medicine bottles you'd like to drop off at the church to be recycled, please be sure that the bottles are prescription medicine bottles, clean and without labels. Please no vitamin bottles.

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Christian Education



Virtual Brown Bag Bible Study on Livestream and Facebook Live

This study meets on Thursdays at noon through livestream and Facebook live. Pastor Paul will continue the study of the New Testament letter written by the Apostle Paul to the Galatians. Join us as we study God's word seeking by God's grace to grow in faith, hope and love.

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

A study of the Book of Matthew meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm through Zoom. The study guide being used is The Immersion Bible Study: Matthew by J. Ellsworth Kalas. If you'd like to join the Wednesday Bible Study or need a study book, please email Cindy Huffman at lucindy1@aol.com and she will forward you the

Zoom link. All are welcome!



Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed will meet on the first Friday of every month at 10:30am via Zoom. The next time we meet will be May 7th. The book we are using is "Deeply Rooted; Knowing Self, Growing in God" by Christopher Marcie. Please contact Louise Mylin for a Zoom code and if you have any questions (727) 787-9868.



Presbyterian Women—Livestreaming is May 13th, 11:00am

The Presbyterian Women study, "Into the Light: Finding Hope through Praver and Lament" by P. Lynn Miller, is a 9-month study on reclaiming the practice of lament. Study books are available. The study is available through livestreaming on the first Thursday of each month at 11:00 AM and will be led by Pastor Curvin. If you'd like more information or have any questions, please contact Cindy Huffman at lucindy1@aol.com.

Kid's Corner Preschool Registration

Registration is currently open for the 2021-2022 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 Laura Garcia at 727-723-7679 or schooldirector@northwoodpc.org or to set up an appointment.



April was a great month. From Outdoor Worships, to Easter, Sunday School, starting up Game Nights again, hosting a beach clean up at the Dunedin Causeway for Earth Day, to reopening Indoor Worship, we've had fun! As for May, in addition to getting back into the cadence of our "normal" schedule, we have some extra events planned! We are having a Youth and Families Hangout: Sunday, May 16th at Philippe Park. Spread the word! See the sign up in the weekly email. Feel free to bring individual snacks, drinks and games to play. Little ones and pups are welcome!

We resumed our Class of 2020 Confirmation with plans to have a Confirmation Service this summer. We met a few times in April to refresh, reflect and move forward. We had a Confirmation Workshop in April and are going to Cedarkirk May 14-15 for a Confirmation Retreat. Keep a lookout in our weekly email for specific dates regarding Confirmation.

Our college group meets via Zoom for now, with in person opportunities every break. We plan to get together this summer a few times for mission and fellowship. We have so many high school graduates this year and we are devoted to providing a space for them to remain connected to their church during and after this new transition in their lives. Let's keep our class of 2020 in our prayers as they navigate through this new adventure in this unexpected way. We also have a handful of youth graduating from high school this year: Brandon Strelcheck, Meaghan Caccamise, Kurt Kemerer, & Sonya Weidner. We plan to celebrate them in worship on Graduation Sunday June, 13th!

Summer 2021 Backyard Mission Trip July 11th - 17th. It will be a local based mission week and will not require an overnight stay. Each day we will take part in a mission opportunity in partnership with local organizations. Mission's will include outdoor service work, food pantry work, ministry to the elderly, food to the homeless and much more! We will spend our mornings to early afternoons working on a mission project. Then we will come back to the church for fellowship and faith connection. Stay tuned for more details. The sign up will be posted very shortly!

In-Person Vacation Bible School is going to be Monday, July 19th to Friday 23rd. We are going to need all hands on deck to make this happen. We are looking for adults to join our planning team, as well as a few youth. We are also looking for youth guides to work during the week as well as youth to help us prepare the space the week prior! One of our mission components during our "Backyard Mission Week" will be helping us prepare for VBS, too! If you would like to join the planning team, please contact me by phone or email! A volunteer sign up and meeting schedule will be available soon through NPC's publications and through the Citylight Weekly Email.

Please continue to follow our Safe Citylight Guidelines that are in our Weekly Emails and on our social media pages. Even though life is seeming to feel "normal" again, we need to continue to do our part in keeping our community safe. Try to see the silver lining and try to hear how God is speaking to you specifically during this time. Please continue to participate in our ministry; providing ideas, prayers and good spirits. Invite friends, reach out to people you haven't heard from in awhile and remember that you are loved! 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.

"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way." - 2 Thessalonians 3:16

Rosalie Bradford, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

What's Going on in Citvlight

Summer is almost here and we're ready for it! We are fortunate to have a safe and healthy youth group that has continued to adapt and overcome the challenges brought to us by Covid-19. Citylight has continued to stay active and offer a blend of virtual and in-person youth programs! We currently have 4 programs a week: Young Men & Women's Bible Studies, Sunday