

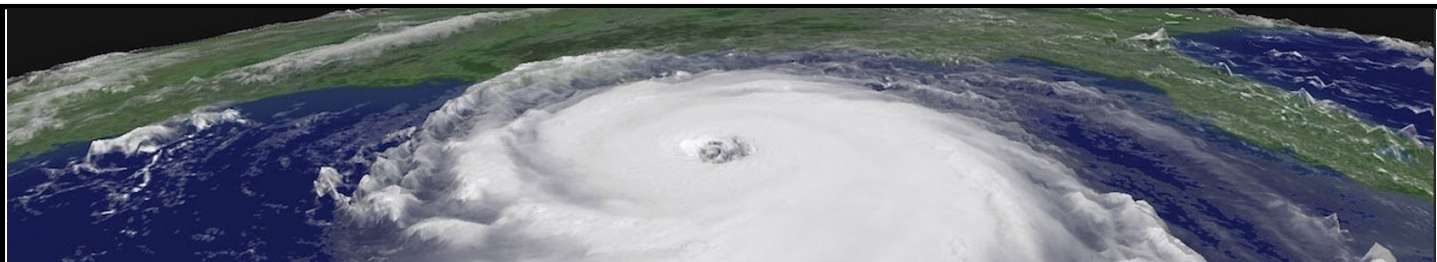


Northwood Presbyterian Church
 2875 State Road 580
 Clearwater, FL 33761
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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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/>.

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church



The Window

Chartering Organization of Boy Scout Troop 413

September 2021
 Volume 31, No. 7

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

What Will Northwood's Music Program Look Like After the Pandemic?

On March 1, 2020, composer Mark Hayes led our 40 voice Chancel choir, youth choir, and instruments in a magnificent Sunday of worship ending with a superb closing concert performing 8 of his compositions. Two weeks later, March 15, 2020, Northwood closed its doors due to a pandemic. The Celebration Ringers were to play in worship that morning. The children's Orff instruments were supposed to play in worship that morning. Our music program was thriving.

54 Sundays later we opened our doors again on Palm Sunday after that many weeks of just livestreaming our worship and a few weeks of outdoor services. We saw a lot of change. Not only worshipping with masks on, but a great number of people had moved away. Some people had sadly passed away. Some people had moved on to other churches. Northwood looks different.

But the Spirit of God is still in this place. The Word is still being spoken. The songs are still being sung. Jesus is still present in our hearts and in the building. And so, as school re-opens and summer comes to a close, when music rehearsals usually begin again, what will the music ministry look like?

It will certainly be smaller: smaller numbers in the adult, youth and children's vocal and bell choirs. But smaller does not have to be less-than. There can be great quality among lesser quantity. How can we grow these numbers?

This ministry is made up entirely of volunteers – YOU!! If you feel you have gifts to offer, but in the past were thinking, "Oh, they don't need me", think again. The opposite is true. We truly need you.

Have you sung in a choir before or would like to try?

- Please consider singing in our Chancel Choir, Youth and Children's Choirs.

Do you read music – or have in the past?

- Please consider ringing handbells. (I will train you)

Do you have other musical gifts?

- Do you play an instrument? Band, orchestra instrument, guitar, etc.

If you aren't gifted musically, we could sure use your prayers. Please pray for open hearts as we begin again; to open your hearts to new musical possibilities and to have open hearts as we worship. We have so much to be thankful for.

Thank you for your support during this time and thanks be to God!

(see inside p.6 for music opportunities)

Stephanie Carson, Director of Music



At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

September 2021

Sunday, August 22:
Beth-El Shoe Sunday
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, August 29:
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, September 5:
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, September 12:
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, September 19:
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, September 26:
 9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

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

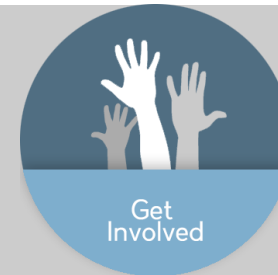
Chris Curvin, Pastor
 Paul Means, Associate Pastor
 Stephanie Carson, Music
 Rosalie Bradford, Youth and Families
 Chris Hurst, Business Administrator
 Linda O'Leary, Bookkeeper
 Emily Cantin, Director of Communications

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Update on In-Person Worship Guidelines

Northwood's Commission for In-Person Worship met on August 3rd to review its guidelines. Despite the recent increase in reported cases of COVID, no significant changes were recommended for The Session's consideration. While wearing a mask for worship remains optional for those who have been vaccinated, those who have not been vaccinated are still required to wear a mask. Northwood's in-person worship practices and precautions are available for review on the church website. The Commission encourages everyone to make an informed decision based upon current guidelines as established by the CDC and the Florida Department of Health.

Around Northwood



VBS THANK YOU!!!

Thanks for riding the Rocky Railway! Our team of 20 volunteers, mostly made up of the NPC Youth team, spent countless hours prepping for the week and hosted an amazing, fun, detailed and wholesome Vacation Bible School this year. On this faith-filled adventure, over 40 kids discovered that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. Each day at NPC's Rocky Railway VBS, kids tracked through field-tested rotations that reinforced relevant Bible points and immersed kids in new adventures as they explored their spiritual gifts. We also collected 200 cans of food to help stock our food pantry! Our closing ceremony was filled with parents and friends to celebrate such a great week and we are already brainstorming next years theme. Our Bible teachers, craft team, music team, recreation team, snack team, stage design team and group leaders went above and beyond this year and we couldn't be more grateful as a church to take this energy and put it into the fall! We are so grateful for our leaders, volunteers and attendees. Stay tuned for more children's ministry opportunities.

"Trust Jesus!"

- VBS 2021 Director, Rosalie Bradford

- VBS 2021 Elder, Susan Curry



Garage Sale THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to all of you who donated and spent so much time helping with another successful Garage Sale. The tally as of the end of the sale is around \$13,942. Amazing! There are still a couple of unique items like a gorgeous dining room table and chairs and tiffany lamp that will be sold soon. A special thanks to all the hard workers and Linda Earl (for traveling from Montana) and Bryan Jonas for all the pick-ups (with Jarrett) and drop-offs. We appreciate all of you and your generosity and look forward to getting back on track for a garage sale in January of 2022.

Thank you,
 Susan Curry and Stephanie Carson



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

Kings Kids—Attention Parents!

This September, Kings Kids will be restarting at Northwood. Your children will learn more about Jesus' love and goodness through weekly (Wednesdays 4-6pm) sessions of Bible study, music with Miss Stephanie, crafts and recreation. We need your support for this to happen. Register your child/children ages preschool through 5th grade by sending the information to childrensministry@northwoodpc.org. Please include:

- Your name, email & phone number
- Your child/children's name, age, grade level

Your ability to help at least once a month by teaching or helping our teachers by staying in the room during their activities is important to our success. We look forward to hearing from you!

Music Rehearsals beginning in September

- Chancel Choir: Wednesday, September 1
6:15 Strawberries and Cream reception, Rms 5 & 7
7-8:30 Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary
- Celebration Ringers: (Beginner/Intermediate) Sundays between services (10-10:40), beginning Sept 12
- Jubilation Ringers: (Intermediate/Advanced) Sundays at noon, beginning Sept 12
- Youth and Children's Choirs to be announced. Praise Band, to be determined.

Please call or email Stephanie Carson and we will plug you in! 727-458-9749; stephanie@northwoodpc.org

Cedarkirk All Church Retreat-Oct. 22-24



The annual All-Church Retreat at Cedarkirk will be held on October 22-24, 2021. You won't want to miss this amazing weekend of fellowship, games, crafts, canoeing and campfire with sing-along and s'mores. Enjoy the great outdoors while staying in air-conditioned lodges! Deposits are being accepted now. Sign up early for best choice of rooms!

Beth-El Shoe Sunday

On Sunday, August 22nd, Northwood is inviting everyone to participate in Beth-El Shoe Sunday by bringing new or gently used shoes for the children, youth and adults of the Beth-El Farm Workers Mission in Wimauma, FL. Beginning August 1st, there will be tubs in the church hallway to drop off your shoes. Beth-El is in need of tennis shoes, sandals, flip-flops, and men's work boots, sizes 6 to 11 for men, 5-7 1/2 for women, and all sizes for children. Along with the shoes, we are also collecting socks, suitcases, backpacks, and lightweight jackets. You can also go online to make a donation to Beth-El. Pre-Covid our shoe drive goal was to distribute 400 pairs of shoes to the families in the Beth-El community. The Mission Team goal is to pick right back up from 2019 and again distribute 400 pairs of shoes. Thank you in advance for participating in Beth-El Shoe Sunday!

Congratulations to Scholarship Recipients

The Scholarship team met on Tuesday, June 1, 2021. Congratulations to the following students who were awarded scholarships:

First time applicants: Kurt Kemerer and Brandon Strelcheck

Second year recipients: Mitchell Johnston, Jonathan Luther, Grace Michalk and Heather Wood.

Brandon Strelcheck 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.

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, September 14th at 7:00pm. If you are interested 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.



NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Thornwell

Thank you so much for your incredible generosity to Thornwell! Your fruitful and loving support is changing lives every day by offering hope and healing to kids who really need it. We could not do this without you! Thank you!
Bonnie Thompson

Beth-El

You have many choices to partner with organizations doing great work. Yet you have chosen Beth-El Farmworker Ministry to be part of your journey leaving a legacy of generosity as you live your dash. We are grateful for your support of food, paper products, masks, socks, diapers and clothes. Thank you for being a good neighbor and friend!
Teresita Matos-Post, Executive Director

Heifer

Thank you for your gift of \$50. Your commitment to Heifer and the families we serve makes you a global force for good. With your partnership, we can end hunger and poverty forever. I can't think of a better goal to have and I can't think of a better partner to have than you!
With Gratitude, Pierre Ferrari, President & CEO

Prayers and Christian sympathies to:

- Michelle, Grayce and Charlotte Hanway upon the news of the death of husband and father, Brad Hanway on June 1st.
- Penny Shore upon the news of the death of her husband, Joe Shore on June 4th.
- Sandy Seckel upon the news of the death of her husband, Prescott Seckel on June 8th.
- Sue Glaser upon the news of the death of her husband, Dave Glaser on June 20th.
- Violet Lawrence upon the news of the death of her husband, Stephen Lawrence on July 1st.
- Karen, Will and Faith upon the news of the death of husband and father, Bill Allen on July 8th.
- Rev. Lindsay and Jane Frame upon the news of the death of their daughter, Ruth White on July 8th.
- Karen Gipson upon the news of the death of her father, JoonHaeng Hur on July 16th.



The Northwood Food Pantry wishes to thank all the Vacation Bible School attendees that donated over 200 cans of food to our pantry. This was a wonderful surprise as the donations during the summer months are always low. Many thanks to Rosalie for spearheading this outstanding collection of canned goods.

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:

Brian McNay
Joe Zeigler
Lyn Heider
Terry McNay
Terry McNay
Terry McNay
Charlotte McQuown
Bill Bilka
Charlotte McQuown
Terry McNay
Joe Shore
Prescott Seckel
Joe Shore
Brad Hanway
Nancy Ericson
Joe Shore
Lyn Heider
Charlotte McQuown
Becky Sharp

Given by:

Wayne & Nancy Rodewald
Stephanie Carson
Thomas Beaver
Tony & Stull McNay
Wilai McNay
Kris Guthrie
Myrl & Dot Chrinister
Linda Ciokan
Linda Ciokan
Charlene Wittlesy
Bill & Patty Martin
Bill & Patty Martin
Art & Jeanette Holloway
Art & Jeanette Holloway
Garry & Carol Justice
Nancy Turner
TCI Class
TCI Class
TCI Class

Prayer Ministry

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 & Joanne Inkles, Lloyd Kimball, Joyce Klotz, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Norman Phillips, David Smith, Gene Snyder, Marge Vander Slik.

Prayers 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.

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.



Virtual Brown Bag Bible Study on Livestream and Facebook Live

The **Brown Bag Bible Study** is back and livestreaming for the Fall! This Thursday, August 5th, at noon, Pastor Paul will begin a new study of **The Book of Acts**. This New Testament document is the sequel to the Gospel of Luke, both of which were written by Luke, a Gentile physician. Acts provides us with an invaluable bridge between the four gospels and the 22 New Testament letters. It gives us a window into understanding the early Christian church – the dynamic birth of the church, the intense persecution of the church, the explosive growth of church and the transformative impact of the gospel of Jesus Christ on a variety of cultures. The early church in Acts offers inspiration, guidance and examples for us today in being a church and Christians who are faithful to Jesus Christ in the 21st century. Join as we seek to grow in faith, hope and love!



Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian women held their annual luncheon on June 29th. This was the first in person get together of the group, co-led by Patty Martin and Sue Miskiewicz. Only one over 90 year old member attended this year, Jean Swintek. After delicious sandwiches, salads and desserts, plans for upcoming events were discussed.

The kickoff circle meeting with all PW women happens Tuesday, Aug. 17 at 10:00am. We will discuss arrangements for the upcoming year, select our mission projects and much more. Please bring your own beverage. Snacks will not be provided. We will observe safe distancing and wearing a mask is strongly encouraged. Our study book is now available in the church office. Please leave \$5 in an envelope or bring it to the meeting on Tuesday the 17th. The study book is titled *“What My Grandmothers Taught Me,”* and focuses on the women in Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus. Women of all ages who have never attended PW events are very welcome to attend these events and share in Christian fellowship.



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. We will meet again starting in September.

Wednesday Bible Study

Cindy Huffman will be leading a study of the prophet, Jeremiah, featuring the book by Matthew S. Harmon. If you’d like to join the Wednesday Bible Study or need a study book, please email Cindy Huffman at lucindyl@aol.com and she will forward you the Zoom link. All are welcome!

Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed will not be meeting during the summer and will resume in the fall. Please contact Louise Mylin if you have any questions (727) 787-9868 or LVNM1@hotmail.com.

Kid’s Corner Preschool Registration

Registration is currently open for the 2021-2022 school year! We have openings a few openings remaining. Please share the news! If you are interested in a tour of the school, please call the school office at 727-723-7679 or email schooldirector@northwoodpc.org to set up an appointment.



What’s Going on in Citylight

Heading into the fall with gratitude and faith filled energy! This Summer has been packed with so many great opportunities, memories and adventures for our Youth and Family Ministries program. 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. We currently have 3 programs a week: Sunday School, Youth Group on Wednesdays and Friday Game Night! We have also been offering plenty of mission projects and special events to be a part of. We have also grown in numbers this summer and have new members in our program!

We kicked off Summer 2021 with some fun youth events such as Messy Games Night, Cosmic Bowling, a Thresher’s Game, and Celebration Station. We helped out with the Church Garage Sale, raising \$250 from selling donuts and coffee to go towards our Metropolitan Ministries Mission Project on our Backyard Mission Week. In June we also celebrated our NPC Graduates: Brandon Strelcheck, Kurt Kemerer, Sonia Weidner, Meaghan Caccamise, & Anna Hamilton. Thank you everyone that attended Graduation Sunday during our 9:00am Contemporary Service and the reception afterwards. Following Graduation Sunday came our Confirmation Graduation! Our record breaking longest Confirmation Class ever was finally able to read their Faith Statements in front of the Session, family and friends in the Sanctuary on June 26th and celebrated them on the following Sunday, June 27th during the 9:00am Contemporary Service and with a reception afterwards. Our Confirmation class overcame challenges from Covid-19. They wrote two statements of Faith. Hearing their stories through this experience brought tears to the audience on that Saturday. This was a very special weekend for our church and God’s presence was shining on everyone. A new door has been opened for our class as they continue to breathe life into the church through their spiritual gifts and dedication to serving the Lord.

July featured our two main events for the summer: Backyard Mission Week and Vacation Bible School! Our Backyard Mission week consisted of spending half of the day working on a service project at Metropolitan Ministries, then coming back to the church for team building initiatives and fun youth events in the evening. We completed a landscaping project at Metropolitan Ministries from start to finish. We cleaned up the front of their Pasco facility and prepped it for fresh landscaping. We designed a drought-tolerant Florida Native Design, and went to our local nursery to shop for the plants we needed. We installed our design as well as an additional succulent garden. Then on Tuesday night the youth stayed up late prepping a big meal for the residents and staff of Metropolitan Ministries. On Wednesday the youth spent the morning manning the grill and prepping the BBQ. I had so much fun teaching them BBQ 101! We served almost 75 people and had an amazing day. We then transitioned into VBS mode and spent Thursday and Friday preparing for VBS. We decorated classrooms, organized activities, and completely transformed this church. I have never been more proud of a group of youth! Prior to and during the week of Vacation Bible School they worked countless hours with me to execute such a successful VBS for Northwood Presbyterian Church. We are so excited to take this energy into the fall.

Our College Group is getting bigger! We welcome our newest graduates and currently have about 10 college students in our group. We met in person over the summer and in the fall we plan to meet regularly online and quarterly in person. We are hoping to offer a Summer Mission Trip for the group in 2022! Our Youth and Families team is devoted to providing a space for our young adults to remain connected to their church during and after this new transition in their lives.

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. Please continue to take personal ownership and do your part. 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.

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” - Matthew 22:37

Rosalie Bradford, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

