



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

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Access Church Directory and Give via Android or iPhone

Northwood uses ACS software and we'd like for you to know about the ACS Church Life™ mobile app. Those of us on staff have been using the app for a couple of years now and if you've given us the chance, we've probably downloaded it to your smartphone for you. The app provides instant access to the names, addresses, pictures and phone numbers of anyone who would normally appear in a printed Northwood church directory. Information is always as current as the church's data base and access is available to you anytime, anywhere, from your mobile phone. You can even map visits or sign up for events like Vacation Bible School all on the go. Also, with the new mobile giving feature, you can quickly and easily contribute to NPC's published funds...with just one click.

This easy-to-use app is free and available to all NPC members listed in our database using the same user name and password that you create for Access ACS™. If you don't already have a login and password, you can create one by visiting our website at www.northwoodpc.org and clicking on the LOGIN link at the top of the page. When the screen appears, just click where it says "Need a login?" Follow the steps to create the login and then visit the app store on your mobile device to search for and download the app called ACS Church Life. Once downloaded, tap on the new icon on your phone and login using the credentials you created via the website. It may sound a bit complicated if you aren't used to this exercise, but we're always available to help. Call Emily Cantin in the church office and arrange a time to come by. We'll get you started!



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church



Chartering Organization of Boy
Scout Troop 413

The Window

March 2022
Volume 32, No. 3

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

Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2020

DINNER 6:00 pm – WORSHIP 6:45 pm

On Wednesday, March 2nd, Northwood will be serving a dinner followed by our Ash Wednesday worship service. On the menu will be MaryAnn's Creamy Chicken Bake. The meal will begin at 6:00 pm in the Christian Education building. The cost is \$5.00 per person and you may sign up by filling out the reservation form on the bottom of the friendship sheet in your Sunday bulletin or you may contact the church office. The Ash Wednesday service will begin at 6:45 following the meal. Like many other churches, Northwood will have an Ash Wednesday service this year. If you have any questions, please contact the church office 727-796-8090

**A PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY
(Adapted from Psalm 51)**

"Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. Blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my sins. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Restore me to the joy of your salvation. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare praises to you. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit, which God will always accept. Pour out us, O Lord, your mercy, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

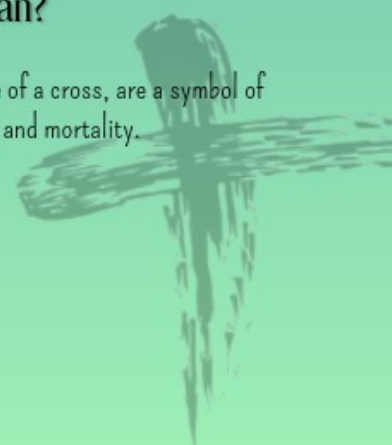


What's the purpose of Ash Wednesday?

It marks first day of the 40 days of Lent, a roughly six-week period (not including Sundays) dedicated to reflection, prayer and fasting in preparation for Easter. It ends on Holy Thursday, the fifth day of Holy Week (the week leading up to Easter) that marks the Last Supper.

What do the ashes mean?

The ashes, applied in the shape of a cross, are a symbol of penance, mourning and mortality.



At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

March 2022

Sunday, February 27:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, March 1:
6:00 P.M. Lenten Meal
6:40 P.M. Ash Wednesday Service

Fri.-Sun., March 4-6:
Cedarkirk Women's Retreat

Sunday, March 6:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, March 13:
Officer Installation
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, March 20:
Gifts of Women
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
10 A.M. Discovering Northwood Presentation
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, March 27:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Church Office Hours

We will be open Monday-Thursday from 8:30am to 3:00pm and closed on Friday. All staff members continue to be available via email or phone regardless of the office schedule.

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
Kim Dickson, Bookkeeper
Emily Cantin, Director of Communications

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The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church, Edited by Emily Cantin

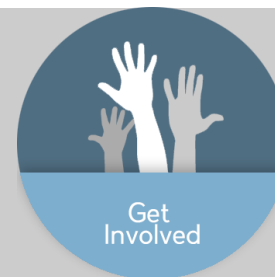
Submissions:

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.

Guidelines for In-Person Worship

Wearing a mask for worship remains optional for those who have been vaccinated and the Commission encourages everyone to make an informed decision based upon current guidelines as established by the CDC and the Florida Department of Health. Northwood's in-person worship practices and precautions are also available for review on the church website.

Around Northwood



GUESS WHAT'S COMING TO NORTHWOOD IN MAY 2022???

The fabulous, entertaining, fun-filled
"NORTHWOODS GOT TALENT" or NGT
(formerly "Night on the Town")

Yes, in early May, we are bringing back a fun-filled evening of entertainment. We are looking for those of you who have singing voices, play instruments, dance, or any "talent" you are proud of sharing. For those of you new to our congregation, *Night on the Town (NOTT)* was a yearly tradition at NPC for many years. We are now resurrecting this fun and entertaining "talent" show.

So, grab your dusty costumes, silly or serious acts, riddles, jokes, prose, and or poetry or any talent you may have (or no talent) and join us for this great evening of hilarity, fun and amazing entertainment. We are looking for 12-15 acts to perform on Sunday, May 1st. The deadline to sign up is Tuesday, April 5th, so please let us know prior to this date. Sign up and join the fun of an evening of frivolity!

Please contact any one of the committee members below:

Babs Bailey - 727-512-9476
Pam Means - 727-386-0747
Sharon Brown - 904-612-0802
Nancy Turner - 727-434-2230

Lenten Cantata

Sunday, April 10 at 4:00 PM, we will present our Lenten Cantata, "In My Place" with three other pieces by Craig Courtney and Dan Forrest. There are dramatic presentations of Judas, Peter, Thief and Centurian and narration tying the music and drama together. After the loud Hosannas in the morning on Palm Sunday, this will lead us into Holy week with a sense of what is ahead, reflecting on the cross, before the triumphal rising on Easter morn. Please get it on your calendars now and join us for this moving work.



Spotlight on Deacons' Ministries

Prayer Chain Ministry

The Prayer Chain is a vital ministry that uses the power of multiple people praying at once for the urgent needs of the body here at Northwood Presbyterian Church. During the worship service, the attendance form may be completed which has an area for prayer concerns or you may fill out a request on our website. These prayer requests are sent to the Deacon in charge of the prayer chain by the Associate Pastor. The Deacon then sends the request out to the Prayer Chain volunteers. Prayer requests may also be given to the church office or Deacon, Sue Miskiewicz at susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com



Around Northwood

Kids' Corner Preschool News



Community Helpers—During the weeks of 2/7 through 3/11, the children will be learning about community helpers. If you or someone in your family would like to come and speak to the children about your work, please reach out to Roxane Fineo at 727-723-7679.

The Kids' Corner Garden—On our playground, we have a small garden to help teach outside the classroom. In the fall, the kids have helped us plant many seeds, including pumpkin, cherry tomatoes, Campari tomatoes, sun flowers, zinnias, and marigolds. The kids are excited to see the seeds sprout and to water the plant as it grows. Several of the kids have picked and tried the cherry tomatoes off the vine! We will be planting again in the spring. We also have milk weed in our garden. Monarch butterflies lay their eggs on milk weed and when they hatch, the caterpillars eat the leaves for days. The kids love to hunt for caterpillar sightings in our garden. When the caterpillar gets big enough, we will place him in an observation tent to observe the caterpillar in the chrysalis state. Once the butterfly hatches, the class releases it so that the process can begin again! Gardening introduces where food comes from, how to take care of living creatures, and the beauty of God's creations.

Kid's Corner Preschool Registration

Registration is currently open for the 2022-2023 school year! We have openings in our 2's, 3's, and VPK. Please share the news! You may stop in the preschool office and pick up your registration forms or download off of the church website. If you are interested in a tour of the school, please contact Roxane Fineo at 727-723-7679 or schooldirector@northwoodpc.org.

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, March 8th at 7:00pm. If you are interested in "attending" our monthly discussion on photography, please contact or curtis.krueger@gmail.com or david@primeimagesinc.com and we'll send you the Zoom link for the meeting.



Women's Retreat-Registration is open!

We're happy to announce that our own Rosalie Bradford Pareja will be the speaker the annual Women's Retreat at Cedarkirk on March 4-6, 2022. Come join us as we explore the Fruit of the Spirit as a leading role in our collection of stories within our own community of faith. You won't want to miss this amazing weekend of fellowship, games, crafts and canoeing. Look for more info and registration forms on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Any questions, please contact Jeanne Stephen at Jeanneestephen@gmail.com

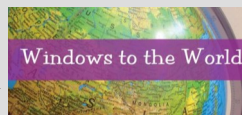


Gifts of Women Sunday

Presbyterian Women will celebrate the gifts of all women on March 20. They have planned and will assist in this service. Kaaren Nesmith is returning as our guest preacher. She retired in Florida after more than 20 years ministering to churches in transition. Come welcome her back to Northwood! PW will serve coffee and cookies BETWEEN (only) the 9 am and 11am service in the hall. So plan to stay late (1st service) or come EARLY for the 11am service. The kitchen windows will close before 11am.

Fun! Friends! Friday! Ren Crew is back!!

The Ren Crew is a group of adventuresome, young at heart 50+ adults that enjoy sharing fun with friends, old and new. The theme for the Ren Crew prior to the pandemic was "Windows to the World." This theme of exploration, inspiration and education will continue to highlight our time together.



We meet on the second Friday of the month from 10:30-11:30am. We will meet in rooms 9 & 11 on March 11th where Jack and Claudia Alwood will present the program "Vive la France" which highlights their travels in that wonderful country. Following the presentation we will look forward to enjoying delicious French crepes which Claudia has so graciously offered to provide. For more information, you may contact Pastor Paul Means at 727-796-8090 or email at paul@northwoodpc.org.

Discovering Northwood Presentation

A Discovering Northwood Presentation will be held Sunday, **March 20th from 10:00am to 11:00am in Room 4** for those wishing to learn more about Northwood and consider church membership. Please know you are welcome to attend if you have been visiting us online in worship.



Caring for Our Church Family

NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

HEP

There are not enough words for us to express how deeply grateful we are for your recent gift of \$500 to support HEP and our life-saving programs. Your dedication to helping people help themselves has an incredible impact on our community! Best Regards, Ashley Lowery, President & CEO

Samaritan Village

On behalf of the staff, Board of Directors and residents of Samaritan Village, thank you for your generous support of our ministry. Some of our accomplishments include

- Served 11 women in our safe house.
- Received a full remodel of our safe house and a new vehicle.
- Completed our first year of our Survivor Peer-Led support group.
- Provided access to over 1800 hours of trauma and group therapy for survivors.

If it weren't for YOU and your generosity these things would not have been possible! We are incredibly grateful for your partnership.

Presbyterian Women

Thank you for the donation of \$560 for the support of the mission and ministry of Presbyterian Women. Caring people like you help ensure that necessary funds are in place to support all Presbyterian women as we carry out the PW purpose together—a purpose that includes Bible study, advocacy for justice and peace, mission work around the world and the work of the PC (USA).

Gratefully, Kathy Reeves, Moderator

Your Giving Matters

For in-person worship, the offering plates will not be passed, however, offering boxes are located in the narthex. For those worshipping online, your giving matters too. 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.

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:

Helen Burke
Helen Burke
Helen Burke
Helen Burke
Bonnie Rodenburg
George Cernansky

Given by:

Kathryn Duncan
Robert MacFall
Betsy Johnson
Sam & Melanie Hirt
Art & Jeanette Holloway
Art & Jeanette Holloway

Memorial Gifts

If you wish to make a gift to the church in honor or in memory of someone, please be sure to attach the blue Memorial Gift form to your contribution. Completing the form ensures that we have all the information necessary to properly direct the gift and acknowledge it to both you and the recipient. Forms are located near the memorial book in the Narthex or in the Church Office. Thank you for your assistance.

Prayers and Christian sympathies to:

- Denise Cernansky and Family upon the news of the death of Denise's husband, George Cernansky on January 29.
- Steve Schultz and family upon the news of the death of Steve's mother, Bonnie Rodenburg on February 5.
- Art & Jeanette Holloway upon the news of the death of Art's nephew, Mark Holloway on February 6.
- Jeanne Stephen and Family upon the news of the death of Jeanne's mother, Nancy Bagnasco on February 7.
- Terry Curkan and Family upon the news of the death of Terry's mother, Dorothy Curkan on February 9.

Prayer Ministry

Ken Andreassen, Carol Anderson, Julie Bryant, Bonnie Beyer, Darrough Diamond, Linda Diamond, Sue GaVette, Shirley Gleason, Jeri Heycock, Fred & Joanne Inkles, Lloyd Kimball, Joyce Klotz, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Norman Phillips, David Smith, Gene Snyder.

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.

Christian Education



Follow us @CitylightNPC

Virtual Brown Bag Bible Study on Livestream and Facebook Live

Thursdays at noon, Pastor Paul will continue the 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 the 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 unified circle will meet the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00am in rooms 4-8. This month we will meet March 8th. We are studying a 9 month Bible study entitled *What my Grandmothers Taught Me* by Merryl Blair. Chris Curvin will be teaching each lesson via Livestream and our circle will have a follow-up discussion of the lesson. The seventh lesson will be Thursday, March 3rd at 11:00am livestreamed or in-person in the sanctuary. If you'd like a book, or more information regarding the multiple activities that Presbyterian Women engage in, please contact Patty Martin at bill.martin2@verizon.net or Sue Miskiewicz at susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com.

Experiencing God Class

The Experiencing God class offers you a place to connect with other believers in the study of God's word and how it applies to our daily lives. Join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. We will be meeting online using Zoom. Email Vicki Krueger at vickilee33@aol.com for the link and for any technical help or questions.

Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed will meet Friday, March 4th at 10:30am. We will meet in rooms 5 & 7 of the Christian Education building. The book we are studying is *From Daughters to Disciples* by Lynn Japinga. If you need a book, please contact Marti Huff at marti.huff.np@gmail.com. If you have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin at (727) 787-9868 or LVNM1@hotmail.com.

The Project Group

We are seeking new members! We are down to three and would hate to disband this group. We're women of all ages who sew, knit, and crochet items with a mission purpose. We sew little dresses for Haiti or walker bags, make lap robes, or knit caps for newborns. Our work is done at home. We meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:00am in Room 13. There we bring our projects, share ideas, get encouragement to finish projects, sort through donated material and enjoy Christian fellowship. Sometimes we go out to lunch. PLEASE join us on March 24th at 10:00 am in Room 13. Questions? Call Evelyn Towns 727-785-3743.



Children's Sunday School for age 3 to 5th grade is held weekly during the 11:00am church service in classroom 16. We will be learning about young people who served God in the Old and New Testaments. We look forward to working with your children. Please contact the church office or send an email to childrensministry@northwoodpc.org if you have any questions. We hope you will join us on Sundays!

We Are in Need of Volunteers!

Are you interested in helping with the 11 o'clock children's Sunday School? We need assistants each week/or if you would like to teach, please join us. Send an email with your availability to: childrensministry@northwoodpc.org

What's Going on in Citylight

February was a great month back in our "normal season". In February, we continued our youth and families schedule with 3 programs a week: Sunday School, Youth Group on Wednesdays and Friday Game Night! We offered plenty of special events to be a part of like Valentines Day Dinner, Busch Gardens, Breakfast Outings, Cooking Classes & more! There are a lot of upcoming dates to get excited for and Spring Semester and Summer sign ups are here. Look at the schedule below to check out our upcoming dates.

SPRING BREAK! We are back to Cedarkirk for our Annual Spring Break Mission! We will head over there on Monday March 14th early in the morning and return Wednesday March 16th in the afternoon. We will work on an outdoor service project at Cedarkirk, varying from trailblazing, painting, cleaning, pressure washing and building. We will spend the afternoons enjoying camp activities like canoeing and archery and spend our evenings in community with one another. Our theme for the trip is "Restoring our Faith in Community". The cost per student is \$75. Sign up is available through our weekly email. Along with our Spring Break Mission, we are also offering plenty of special events that week. 3/11 Escape Room & Game Night until 12:00 am, 3/17 Explore St. Pete Day, 3/18 Busch Gardens & Game Night, 3/19 Cars & Coffee Car Show followed by lunch!

SUMMER 2022! We are ready for Summer 2022. We are headed to Montreat, NC for the Annual Montreat Youth Conference! Sign up is officially closed, but a waitlist is available. This conference is open to entering 9th graders through 12th completed as well as college freshman and sophomores. Sign up by contacting Rosalie, \$100 check made out to NPC with memo Montreat to lock in your spot. Visit our weekly email to sign up and learn more about this trip. Backyard Mission is back for round 2! We had SO MUCH FUN last year working with Metropolitan Ministries. This summer we will work with Metropolitan Ministries again, along with Sonny's BBQ, Feeding Tampa Bay, Salvation Army and Habitat for Humanity. This week will offer a total of 50 community service hours! Sign up opens late March through our weekly email.

MUSIC CAMP! Attention all students that would like to participate in Music Camp 6/12 - 6/17 this year. Registration is open and spots are available for sign up. Please let me know or contact Stephanie Carson if interested!

COLLEGE STUDENTS! We have met online and plan to meet regularly this summer! Our college group has been volunteering with our youth program and is invited to join us for our Montreat trip this June and Backyard Mission in July. Our Youth and Families team is devoted to providing a space and resources for our young adults to remain connected to your church during and after this new transition in your life.

SENIORS! Make sure to check out our Graduation Save the Dates and Resources section on our weekly email. Save the date for Graduation Sunday, May 15th. You will be invited to participate in the 9:00 am Contemporary Service followed by a reception! Below the save the dates are scholarship resources and more!

WE NEED YOU! Our Youth & Family Ministries has taken a bit hit in attendance post quarantine and is needing some prayers and positive energy. Please try to make it our to regular programming, invite friends, and come to church on Sundays. Your church misses you! During the spring I am hoping to grow our community through outreach and that starts with you! If we haven't seen you, we miss you and you're always welcome. If you need support, I am here. Remember that you are loved and that this community is here for you.

"I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong - that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." -Romans 1:11-12

Rosalie Bradford, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

SPRING 2022 DATES

3/14 - 3/16 SPRING BREAK MISSION

3/17-3/19 SPRING BREAK EVENTS

4/10 - PALM SUNDAY

4/17 - EASTER SUNDAY

SUMMER 2022 DATES

MONTREAT - 6/4 - 6/11

MUSIC CAMP - 6/12 - 6/17

BACKYARD MISSION - 7/11 - 7/15

YOUTH WEEK - 7/30 - 8/5

