

Pastor Paul's Sabbatical Celebrating God in the Beauty, Majesty and Wildness of God's Creation

It seems amazing that it has already been six years since Pam, Colin, Christopher and I moved to Clearwater. It is with joy that I give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve this community of faith as Associate Pastor of Congregational Care and Mission.

As I celebrate my six years here with you, I am deeply grateful to this church family for the opportunity to have a one-month sabbatical in July of this year. This will be a time of personal renewal to reflect on the beauty, truth and goodness of God. This sabbatical will also allow me time to explore and work on a theme that has continually nourished my faith and renewed my spirit - Celebrating God in the Beauty, Majesty and Wildness of God's Creation.

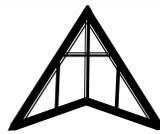
My prayer is that this sabbatical will not only be a blessing to me, but will also be a blessing and provide a benefit for the congregation of Northwood. Toward that end, I will be using Scripture, spiritual reflections and photography to develop a 4-week series and an accompanying 31-day devotional based on the theme mentioned above. The series will be presented to the congregation during the Fall W.A.Y. Dinners.

I have been asked where I am planning to go on my time away, so I thought it might be interesting to share my itinerary for this Sabbatical-Adventure. I will be spending time in Glacier National Park and then cross over into Canada to spend time in Banff, Yoho National Park and Jasper National Park in the Canadian Rockies. Then from Jasper National Park, I will cross back over into the United States and travel to Washington State and spend time in Olympic National Park, Mount St. Helens and Mount Rainier. The last week of July will be spent working on the 4-week series and the daily devotional.

Please know that I greatly value your prayers as I plan and prepare for this wonderful gift to explore God's creation and to experience God's presence in what I am sure will be surprising, grace-filled ways.

Thank you, again, for your kindness and generosity!

In Christ's love and fellow sojourner in the faith,
Pastor Paul
Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission



Loyal to His Church
"Count on Me!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS—June 28, 2015

WELCOME GUESTS

We invite you to participate in the many opportunities for worship and service here. We invite you to our Discovering Northwood class **Sunday, September 20 in room 4** of the Christian Education Building **from 10:45AM-12:00PM** to learn more about our church. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the pastor, Rev. E. Chris Curvin, at ChrisCurvin@Northwoodpc.org or Membership Coordinator, Katie Pacana, at Katie@Northwoodpc.org. Both Katie and Chris can be reached at 796-8090.

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE AT NPC

9:00 AM Contemporary Service

10:30 AM Traditional Service

**During the major renovations of the main restrooms we will be utilizing a simpler worship schedule beginning today through August. There are alternate restrooms available to everyone in the church office and Family Life Center during the renovation.*

Upcoming Events

CHEW ON THAT! Bi-Weekly Adult Christian Education

TODAY: Remembrance What do we choose to remember and honor? Why? And, how? Begin by "chewing on" 1 Chronicles 16:8-12 and 1 Corinthians 11:23b-26. We will meet in rooms 9-11 from 9:45am for fellowship and 10:05am for our topical "chew". We hope that both traditional and contemporary worshippers will try us out!

Deacon's Hurricane Ministry

Hurricane Season began June 1. Go to www.baynews9.com, click on "Weather," and under "Hurricane Center" find info to prepare. If evacuation is necessary, we need volunteers to share their homes. If you are willing, please contact Sue Miskiewicz, (727) 799-6767 or susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com, and type in the subject "Hurricane Request." Please include your name, address, phone number & number you can house.

SAVE THE DATE!

The annual Cedarkirk All-Church Retreat will be October 16-18. Poster and brochures can be found on the bulletin board directly across from the kitchen. Deposits with room requests are currently being accepted. Sign up early for best choice of rooms! Also, save the date for the Women's Retreat – Jan. 22-24, 2016!

Youth Events

Sunday, June 28:

Youth Group 5-6:30

Friday, July 10:

Game Night 7-10

Sunday, July 12:

Youth Group 5-6:30

Troy Harris, Director of Youth & Young Adults
troyharris1962@yahoo.com, 727-366-7762

Children's Ministries

Summer Sunday School

We are still in need of teachers for Summer Sunday School. If you are able to teach one Sunday in July-August, please sign up on the Children's Ministry bulletin board across from the water fountain or call Justine Ruisz.

Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry
Childrensministry@northwoodpc.org 796-8090/ Cell- 727-641-8140

NPC LIBRARIES

Due to the restroom renovations, the adult library is now closed for the summer. We have moved some of our most well-liked books into the children's library—fiction books (both individual books by author and several of our popular series), commentaries, famous people of the Old and New Testaments and various other topics. We have also moved the book return box into the children's library. Come visit us in our temporary home and check it out!

Office Angels Needed

We are in need of volunteers to assist in the church office during the week. Weekdays are split into two shifts—9-12:30 and 12:30-4. We have openings for Monday afternoon, Wednesday afternoon, every other Friday morning, and substitutes. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Katie Pacana at 796-8090. Duties include answering phones, assisting with the food pantry, sorting mail, and other administrative duties.

Building Renovation Pledge Update

Campaign Goal: \$80,000.00

Pledged to Date: \$62,943.00

Pledges Received \$47,974.00

Non-Pledged Gifts Received to Date: \$23,424.53

Total Gifts to Building Fund to Date: \$71,398.53

Unpaid Pledge Balance: \$14,969.00

If all of the unpaid pledges for the Building Renovation are paid by December 31, 2015, then the total given toward our original goal of \$80,000 will be \$81,267.53. As was announced recently during worship and through our publications, the best and lowest bid for the renovation was \$108,000. As a result of recent giving, the gap is now only \$21,632.47. Thank you to those able to make gifts and additional financial contributions to help us bridge this gap.

Per Capita Apportionment

Every church shares in the administrative costs of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) through the annual per capita assessment. Northwood's per capita assessment for 2015 will be \$25.00 per every active member and confirmed youth (communicant member). Please consider paying this administrative cost above and beyond your annual pledge/offering. You can contribute to the per capita apportionment at any time during the year. To do so just write "per capita" on the memo line of your check or mark an envelope accordingly. Thank you!

Online Giving

If you are interested in setting up online giving, visit the "Giving" link to the secure portal at www.northwoodpc.org or call the Church Office. For your convenience, gifts can be processed as credit card or e-check transactions. Additionally, you may make a one-time gift or set your contributions up for automated processing on a schedule that you select. Participation in the offering on Sunday morning is an act of worship and we wish to include those who choose to give online. If you so choose, you will find laminated cards in the Narthex that can be placed in the offering plate to say "My gift this week was made online." Thank you for your continued and faithful support of the ministry and mission of Northwood Presbyterian Church.

Christian Education Survey

The Christian Education team would like your input! Please help us assess our CE programs by filling out the short survey found online at www.northwoodpc.org/survey. The survey will be available online through July 31. Thank you for your participation!