


DO NOT DELAY
TIME VALUE DATA
EXPEDITE!!!

NON-PROFIT
 ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT NO. 8088
 TAMPA FL

Sent with Prayer to...


Donations Accepted at Northwood Presbyterian

We gladly accept donations of the following items. If you wish to donate anything outside this list, please contact the church office. Thank you for your generosity!




Medicine Bottles

Donations of pill bottles collected at Northwood are delivered to the Clearwater Free Clinic, which provides medicine at low cost to its patients, who are primarily the uninsured working poor and their children. When donating your bottles, be sure the pill bottles are clean, both inside and out, with the labels and glue residue removed. The clinic's staff is grateful for Northwood's contributions!



Can Tabs

Please collect tabs from cans of soda, soup, etc. and then bring them to the church and put them in the basket by the entrance nearest to the church office. These donations will go to Shriners Hospitals for Children to help children in need!



Canned Food

Canned Meats
 Canned Ravioli
 Canned Pasta
 Canned Chili
 Canned Tuna
 Canned Baked Beans
 Canned Chunky Soup
 Canned Fruits
 Peanut Butter
 Jelly

These canned foods are used to make up our food pantry bags that are given to those in need in our local community.

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church



The Window

Chartering Organization of Boy Scout Troop 413

November 2020
 Volume 30, No. 10

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

2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN “PARTNERS IN SPREADING GOOD NEWS!”

Dear Members and Friends of Northwood,

As we begin to prepare our church's budget for the coming year, our prayer is that you will embrace the teaching in the scriptures that calls us to be partners in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ. As we yearn to move beyond this unprecedented pandemic, we ask you to prayerfully consider making an *increased* financial gift for 2021 from your current level of giving. Our stewardship theme, “*Partners Spreading Good News*” comes from Philippians 1:4-6 in which the Apostle Paul says to those Christians who felt so close as his partners in ministry:

*“Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, ⁵for you have been my **partners in spreading the Good News about Christ** from the time you first heard it until now. ⁶And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.”*

You will be receiving a stewardship letter in the next week as we prepare for the dedication of our pledges on **Sunday, November 8th, Dedication Sunday**. Along with the stewardship letter you will find a small envelope with the church address printed on it. You may use this to return your pledge card by mail or to the office during our current office hours from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday. When we are able to return to in-person worship you may also drop off your pledge card in the designated giving stations/boxes available in the narthex.

Finally, on behalf of the church staff, I want to thank you for your supportive telephone calls, emails and cards. We are so grateful for your strong support during this time in which we have been unable to have in-person worship. Thank you for your gracious understanding. We all long for the time when we can return to in-person worship. I pray that time comes soon in God's good and right time. You may have noticed that we have been announcing that the livestreaming of the Ignite Contemporary Service, which is currently broadcast at 9:30, will be moved to 9:00 am beginning November 1st. This will allow volunteers to clean and sanitize the sanctuary prior to the 11:00 am traditional worship service when in-person worship resumes. We give thanks to God for the Commission for In-Person worship that has been meeting faithfully to make that time a reality.

Truly we have been great partners in confronting this pandemic together! Let each one of us plan to give generously in the coming year, certain that God who began a good work in us, will continue in 2021! Remember, every gift counts, as we partner in Christ's call to spread God's good news!

Your pastor and friend,
 Chris

At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

November 2020

Sunday, November 1:
All Saints' Day/Blanket Sunday
 9:00 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

Sunday, November 8:
Stewardship/Dedication Sunday
 9:00 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

Sunday, November 15:
 9:00 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

Sunday, November 22:
 9:00 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Online Traditional Service

Sunday, November 29:
First Sunday of Advent
 9:00 A.M. Online IGNITE Service
 11:00 A.M. Online 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
 Tom Huffman, Music
 Rosalie Bradford, Youth and Families
 Chris Hurst, Business Administrator
 Linda O'Leary, Bookkeeper
 Emily Cantin, Director of Communications

Letter from the Pastor	1
At-A-Glance	2
Caring for our Church Family	3
News from the Mission Field	3
Christian Education	4
Children's Ministries	4
Youth Events	5
Around Northwood	6
Around Northwood	7
Donations	8

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.



What's Going on with Music in Covid-19 Culture?

Things have changed in every aspect of our lives, including the music ministry at Northwood and every other church. We thank you all for your patience and understanding as we try to navigate this new culture.

Here are a few things we have done to include music safely in the services:

- The praise band has been pared down to 6 people, distanced, in 3-4 rotations (just 3 singers) and continue to lead worship every week at the 9:30 ignite service. Many thanks to Larry and Jeanne Stephen who led worship, along with myself, for a number of weeks until we felt safe enough to include others.
- A handbell quartet and duet pre-recorded a few songs that have aired livestream.
- Various soloists and duets in traditional worship and playing past choir anthems during the services.
- Also, Tom Huffman played beautiful voluntaries and hymns as I, and others, sang the melody for you all to sing at home.

Going forward:

This week we have an outdoor choir rehearsal. It is to help with community and connection and to let us use our voices in a safe outdoor space. I am looking forward to that! Indoor singing with many voices is not advisable. We hope to gradually increase the singers with duets, trios and quartets.

This week, the children's handbell and Orff group is meeting. Only 4 children have decided to participate, but we can make it work and look forward to having them play in worship.

I'm still navigating adult handbells as many have opted out. Each ringer is crucial, so looking at smaller ensembles - quartets, quintets and other options. Youth handbells will begin rehearsals soon in smaller ensembles. Youth and children's choirs will be on hold for the time being.

Ring, Sing & Mingle and the Christmas Cantata unfortunately will not be able to happen in 2020. That is heartbreaking, but necessary. We do hope to have our Annual Garage Sale. The workers have been polled and most want to work. Susan Curry, our leader, is enthusiastic, as always, and excited for it to begin. Please save your 'stuff' for us!

We are grateful to the Johnston family for being our technical team. Our very small booth was staffed entirely by the 5 Johnstons. We are looking to increase the size of the booth so they can have a break and allow others to help in a distanced space. Many upgrades technically were required and are continuing.

We thank you for your wonderful and encouraging notes and even your financial support. We are humbled by your generosity.

God is Good and in control. We pray for wisdom as we move forward in a pandemic in these uncharted waters. We miss you all and look forward to all being together again soon!

Blessings,
 Stephanie Carson
 Director of Music

Volunteer Opportunity

Meals on Wheels has received a grant that will allow them to serve all remaining 500 clients on their waiting list through 2020. As a result, Meals on Wheels is looking for volunteers who might have a couple of hours each week to help with the tremendous increase in meals that need to be delivered. If you would like to consider volunteering, please contact Pastor Paul at paul@northwoodpc.org or 727-796-8090.

Cedarkirk Women's Retreat Save the Date

Something to look forward to! Save the date for the Cedarkirk Women's Retreat held on February 19-21, 2021.





If you have leftover Halloween candy or find some good BOGO deals, the music ministry will gladly accept your donations. We use the candy as incentives in our children's choirs as they are gradually starting back. Thank you for your generosity! Questions? Contact Stephanie Carson. 727-796-8090.

Spotlight on Deacons' Ministries

Finally, the best advice for all of us is to be prepared. One helpful resource is [**baynews9.com**](http://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.

You may be aware that some of our members, and even our church staff, have received scam emails, that appear to be from Pastor Chris and others by email. The emails scams of financial help often come in the request for you to purchase gift cards. Our pastors do NOT send these emails. This email scam is also happening to pastors in other churches across the nation at this point. Please know that your pastors and the church staff will never solicit any funds in this manner. Simply forward the message of such a request to the church office so that we can collect them 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. Be aware of scams by email and phone calls!



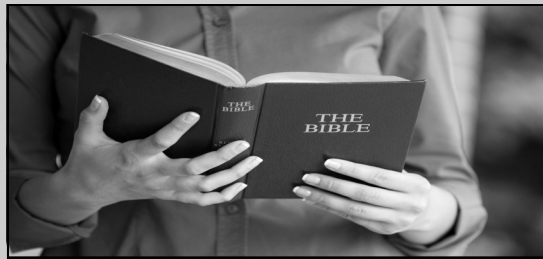
Caring for Our Church Family

Kay Scheuerman

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

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.

Christian Education



Prayer, Joys and Concerns

Each Sunday we will be worshipping online at both 9:00 & 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 9:00am 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

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. This month we will meet November 6th. The new book will be “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.

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 conclude the study on the Old Testament Book of Job on November 5th. Then **on Thursday, November 12th**, Pastor Paul will begin a five week study on the major themes of Advent. As we move towards Christmas this will be a time when we will reflect on what it means to welcome anew the Christ Child into our hearts, and as a result what it means to live as a dearly beloved child of God.

Presbyterian Women

Nov. 5th at 11:00am



Presbyterian Women are using a Bible study called “*Into the Light: Finding Hope through Prayer and Lament*” by P. Lynn Miller. This is a 9-month study on reclaiming the practice of lament through Biblical study. Study books are available for purchase. The study will be available through livestreaming on the first Thursday of each month at 11:00 AM and will be led by Pastor Curvin. This month we will meet on November 5th. Everyone is welcome! If you’d like more information or have any questions, please contact Patty Martin at bill.martin2@verizon.net.



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 the school at 727-723-7679 or schooldirector@northwoodpc.org or to set up an appointment.



Follow us
@CitylightNPC

What’s Going on in Citylight

We are over half way done with our fall school semester. Despite the circumstances, Citylight has continued to stay active and offer a blend of virtual and in-person youth programs! We still managed to have a good summer and take advantage of this time to grow in relationships and in our faith. We currently have 5 virtual programs a week: Young Men & Women’s Bible Studies, Sunday School, Virtual Youth Group Lessons Wednesdays, Virtual Trivia, Game Nights, and Virtual Faith Connection Chats. Our Confirmation Class of 2020 meets twice a month virtually as well as our college group! We have also done some outdoor movie nights, small group beach days, park hangouts, slip n slide kickball, game/sporting events, and kayaking days.

As we finish up this fall semester, we are going to transition into normalizing Citynight on Wednesdays again and having some form of a Friday game night/event twice a month, to go along with our virtual schedule. We have adjusted our schedule a little bit to better serve the needs of our youth and families.

We started our new College Group this past month via Zoom! We will build this program off a virtual platform but hope to connect in person during the Holidays. 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.

Unfortunately, the 2020 Fall Fusion Youth Retreat has been cancelled. However, we have rescheduled our Challenge to Change Mission Trip to 2021 Spring Break! The Mission trip will be from Sunday Afternoon March 14th, to Wednesday evening March 17th. The sign up is available in the Youth & Families Email.

We are returning to Metropolitan Ministries this year for their Annual Holiday Food Drive and Shop a Thon! Please join us Monday, November 23rd from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm. This will be an Outdoor event. You can ride on the church van, or drive separately. We have plenty of volunteer spots available for middle, high, and college students! We also have plenty of adult spots as well! If you have been feeling God calling you to serve in this time of your life, now is your chance. Please email me at bradfordrosalie@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering, or see the sign up in our Youth and Families Weekly Email. As we do our best to keep our community safe, please continue to follow our Safe Citylight Guidelines that are in our Weekly Emails and on our social media pages.

Even though our 2020 school year has started differently than we ever expected, do not lose hope! We can continue to focus on relationship building using the virtual tools we are so lucky to have. We can also take advantage of this time to reach out to people we have not had the chance to and take advantage of the time we have with our families. Try to see the silver lining and try to hear how God is speaking to you, specifically, during this time. Please continue to pray for the safety and well being of our community and the impact Covid-19 has had 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.

“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

