



Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580
Clearwater, FL 33761

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

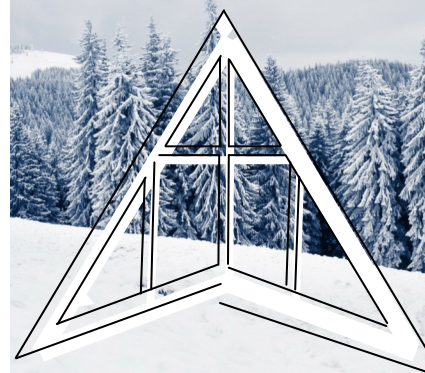
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A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church



The Window

**Chartering Organization of
Boy Scout Troop 413**

December 2022
Volume 32, No. 11

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

Ring, Sing & Mingle

**Sunday, December 11, 2022
at 4:00pm, Sanctuary**

- *Featuring our 3 Handbell Choirs
- *Singing of Christmas Songs & Carols
- *Cookie Reception to Follow

There will be an opportunity for
a freewill offering.

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Cookies for Ring, Sing & Mingle

One of the highlights of the Ring, Sing & Mingle event is all the homemade cookies! If you'd like to volunteer to make something, please bring your baked goods to the kitchen on the morning or afternoon of December 11th labeled Ring, Sing, Mingle. If you'd like to volunteer to assist with the reception, please email at stephanie@northwoodpc.org

*We hope you will join us and
invite friends and family to all the
special services we have planned!*

Sunday, December 11

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 4:00 PM **Ring, Sing & Mingle**
- Handbell Concert and Carol Sing**

Sunday, December 18

One worship Service—10:00 AM Christmas Cantata:
“Festival of Christmas” by Mary McDonald
Choir and Instruments

Saturday, December 24th

- 4:30 PM Family Candlelight Service
- 7:00 PM Traditional Candlelight Service
with Choirs & Carols

Sunday, December 25

10:00 AM One Morning Worship Service

Sunday, January 2

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service



Beth-El & HEP Angel Tree

It's that time of year when we have the opportunity to help our adopted families with Christmas! Again this year, we will have “angels” on our Christmas tree in the narthex so that you can choose a gift to provide for a family in need. This year we are working with families from the Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry and with HEP (Homeless Empowerment Program). There will also be angels on the tree with general items that are helpful to the farmworker families. Dates of when all gifts will need to be returned to the church will be coordinated with Beth-El and HEP sometime mid December.



Poinsettias

Do you have someone you'd like to honor or remember with a poinsettia in the sanctuary this Christmas? For just \$10, you can make that happen. Place your check designated “Poinsettia” and the completed sign-up form from Sunday's friendship sheet (through December 11) in the giving station or drop off in the church office during regular office hours. If paying online, or do not have a bulletin insert to include with your check, be sure to send an email to communications@northwoodpc.org with the names of your loved ones and whether it is in memory or honor.



At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

December 2022

Sunday, December 4:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

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

Sunday, December 11:
4:00 P.M. Ring, Sing & Mingle

Sunday, December 18:
Christmas Cantata
10:00 A.M. One Worship Service

Saturday, December 24:
Christmas Eve
4:30 P.M. Family Candlelight Service
7:00 P.M. Traditional Candlelight Service w/Choir

Sunday, December 25:
Christmas Day
10:00 A.M. One Worship Service

Sunday, January 1:
9:00 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

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

Chris Curvin, Pastor x2007
Paul Means, Associate Pastor x2006
Stephanie Carson, Music x2009
David Furr, Organist
Rosalie Bradford, Youth and Families x2008
Karlee Wright, Children's Ministry x2002
Emily Cantin, Dir. of Communications x2001
Mark Fettke, Bookkeeper x2005
Roxane Fineo, Director of Schools x2010

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.

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.

Around Northwood



On Sunday, November 7th we celebrated All Saints Sunday. We remembered all those who have lost loved ones and friends that we may, without fear, trust those who are dear to us to God's never-failing love. *The following names are from the membership roll of Northwood*

November 1, 2021—October 31, 2022

Don Drummond (11-29-21)	Joanne Inkles (6/10/22)
Ethel Holden (12-2-21)	Ken Andreassen (6/15/22)
Helen Burke (12-30-21)	Dot Chronister (7/19/22)
George Cernansky (1-29-22)	Myrle Whitten (7/23/22)
Bill Rimmler (3/10/22)	Linda Earl (8/8/22)
Bob MacFall (3/27/22)	Bonnie Beyer (8/10/22)
Linda Ciokan (4/24/22)	



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.

Pledge Cards for 2023

Thank you for your faithful answer to God's call to give freely and wholeheartedly to support the ministry and mission of Northwood Presbyterian Church in 2022. If you have already submitted a pledge card for the coming year, thank you! If you have yet to do so, please do so as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available in the narthex and the church office. Thank you again for all God has done in and through your giving back to Him at Northwood Presbyterian in 2022. We look forward to the work God is preparing for us in 2023.



Annual Garage Sale

Hard to believe but our annual Garage Sale is almost here again. The sale will take place on January 13 and 14, 2023. Your dona-

tions and the donations you request from family and friends is so important to the success of the sale. Your generosity continues to amaze us and the Music Program benefits greatly.

More information will be coming about the drop-off times and pick-up opportunities in December's publications.

As always, we cannot accept older electronics, tvs, or entertainment centers. Gently used furniture is accepted. Everything else is most welcome – clothes, jewelry, furniture, household, linens, fine collectibles, holiday, books, tools, outdoor, etc.

We also need more help this year as some of our faithful workers will not be able to be with us. Contact Susan Curry (727) 709-8237 or e-mail susankcurry@verizon.net if you can help or if you have any questions.

2022 Contributions

Giving intended for 2022 must be received in the church office by noon on Friday, December 30 or postmarked no later than December 31, 2022. Contributions which are processed electronically through your bank's online bill pay or via our website must be initiated much earlier (probably no later than December 23) so that the transaction will fully process and qualify for deduction in 2022.

The Christmas Joy Special Offering

Sunday, December 11th, we will receive the annual Christmas Joy Offering. Your gifts make a difference in providing financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families and in opportunities for deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related ethnic colleges and schools. Your generous support of the Christmas Joy Offering will make a difference in shining the One True Light of Christ's love.

Around Northwood



Caring for Our Church Family

Women's Retreat- Register NOW!

Feb 10-12, 2023



Join the women of Northwood at the annual Women's Retreat at Cedarkirk. You won't want to miss this amazing weekend of fellowship, games, crafts, and canoeing. Enjoy the great outdoors while staying in air-conditioned lodges. Register Now! Deposits are due December 3rd. Registration forms can be found on the bulletin board across from the kitchen!



Our Christmas Program will be held on Wednesday, 12/21 at 11:00am in the Sanctuary and all are invited. The program will include performances by the two-year-old, three-year old and VPK classes. The children will be dismissed directly after the program and there will be refreshments for all to enjoy. The staff at Kids' Corner Preschool wishes you all a Blessed Christmas & Happy Healthy New Year! Please feel free to call or email Roxane Fineo in the office with any questions or concerns. 727-723-7679 or schooldirector@northwoodpc.org.



"Festival of Christmas" with Choir & Instruments
by Mary McDonald
One Worship Service
Sunday, December 18, 2022 at 10:00a.m.

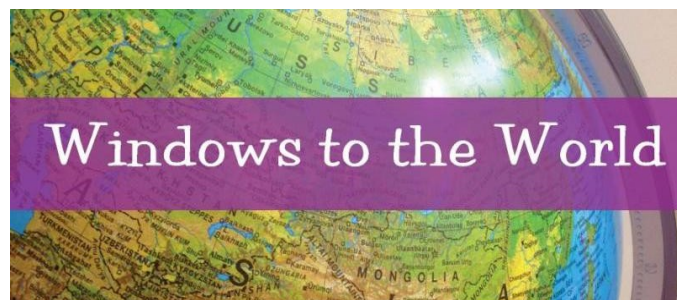
The Project Group



If you sew, knit, crochet or craft with a mission purpose (e.g. make greeting cards), you are invited! The project group meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10:00am in room 13. We make little dresses for Haiti, lap robes, walker bags, and stuffed teddy bears. The latter go to the ER at Countryside. New members are always welcome. Contact Marti Huff 727-503-3783 or Evelyn Towns 727-785-3743 with any questions. Thanks!

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, December 13th at 7:00pm. If you are interested in "attending" our monthly discussion on photography, please contact Curtis Krueger or David Lawrence at david@primeimagesinc.com or curtis.krueger@gmail.com and we'll send you the Zoom link for the meeting.



Fun! Friends! Friday! The Ren Crew

The Ren Crew Friday Fellowship will meet on **Friday, Friday, December 9th at 10:30** in rooms 11 & 13. We are a group of adventuresome, young at heart adults who enjoy sharing fun with friends, old and new. In keeping with the theme "Windows to the World," Pastor Paul will provide the program sharing sites and experiences from his two-week road trip through Alaska's Southcentral and Interior regions. Following the program we will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Join us and treat yourself to a Friday filled with fun and friends! For more information, you may contact Pastor Paul Means at paul@northwoodpc.org or 727-796-8090.

NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

HEP (Homeless Empowerment Program)

There are not enough words 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 had an incredible impact on our community. Best Regards, Ashley Lowery, President & CEO

Clearwater Free Clinic

Thank you to everyone at the church for your recent gift of \$500 in support of the Clearwater Free Clinic. Because of you, our neighbors without access to insurance will receive the quality healthcare they need. Thank You!
With Gratitude, Holly Moon

Beth-El

Thank you, Northwood Presbyterian Church, for your gift of \$100. You are building back the farm-working community after the impact of Hurricane Ian. We are at it. Walking with and staying present with the families in our community who are still enduring the effects of the passing of the hurricane. Thank you!
Teresita Matos-Post, Executive Director

Care Notes Ministry

Are you struggling to cope with grief or chronic illness? Are you overwhelmed with the challenges of care giving? *CareNotes* offer strength, help and healing for those who are hurting and provide a wealth of emotional, health, grief and eldercare support and information. *CareNotes* are also available for teens and children addressing such topics as bullying, social media safety and forgiveness. You will also find greeting cards if needed. These free resources are found in the racks in the narthex. They are supplied by the Deacons and refreshed by Deacon Eileen Nelson.

Beth-El Blanket—Thank You!

The Presbyterian Women, the NPC Mission Team and the Beth-El farm workers ministry thank you for your wonderful response of giving blankets and suitcases to migrant workers who have recently come to Florida. Through your generous giving 279 blankets, 6 Jackets, 4 suitcases, 16 totes & backpacks along with \$280. Thank you for sharing the love of Jesus in this way!



Prayers and Christian Sympathies to:

- Mary Wilson and Family upon the news of the death of her grandson, Forrest on November 11.
- The Rimmeler Family upon the news of the death of Suzanne Rimmeler on November 20.

Prayer Ministry

Carol Anderson, Julie Bryant, Darrough Diamond, Linda Diamond, Sue GaVette, Shirley Gleason, Jeri Heycock, Fred Inkles, Lloyd Kimball, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Norman Phillips, David Smith, Gene Snyder.

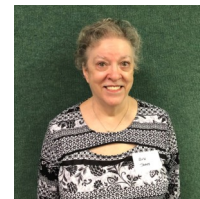
Memorial Gifts

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.

Welcome New Members!



9:00am
Susan Hasell



11:00am
Ann James

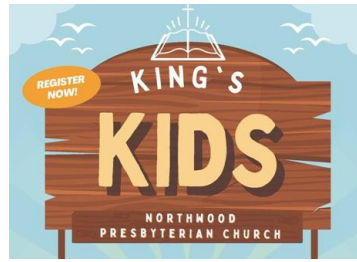


11:00am
Jennifer & Andy
McManus



Flower Arrangements

The flowers that are placed in the sanctuary are assembled into smaller arrangements to be distributed to those who are ill or in need of encouragement. The congregation is welcome to take one of these arrangements if needed. They can be picked up between 12:15-12:30 on Sunday in the kitchen.



Kings' Kids is our Wednesday program for children ages 3 through 5th grade. This is an intentional mid-week program to help build friendships in a Christian environment and strengthen faith, bringing children closer to God. The program includes rotations through Bible lessons, music/choir and guided recreational activities with additional children and family events throughout the year. Kings Kids will meet every Wednesday **resuming in January 2023**. For more information, contact Karlee Wright at childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.

Presbyterian Women



We have resumed our monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be December 13th at 10am in rooms 5 & 7 of the Christian Education Building with a Christmas Brunch to follow! All ladies are welcome! We are using a 9 month study titled "Celebrating Sabbath". If you need a book, they are available for purchase in the church office.

Brown Bag Bible Study IN-PERSON and Livestream

We will continue meeting on Wednesdays at noon, looking at a seven week study on the seven stories in the Gospel of John. John refers to these stories as signs which reveal and point to Jesus as the Messiah. John tells us "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (John 20:31) Come join us as we grow in faith, hope and love!



Fresh Brewed

Fresh Brewed will meet Friday, December 2nd at 10:30am. We will meet in rooms 5&7 of the Christian Education building. The book we are studying is *The Relationship Principles of Jesus* by Tom Holladay. If you have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin at (727) 787-9868 or LVNM1@hotmail.com. For help getting a book, contact Marti Huff at marti.huff@gmail.com.

Biblical TakeAways

"Biblical TakeAways" is an adult Sunday School study class which is nestled between the two Northwood Sunday morning services. This allows worshipers from both services to attend. The study and discussion will offer key "takeaways" based upon central Biblical truths and principles which are relevant for class participants to apply in their daily lives. The Study meets on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in Rooms 5 & 7. **We will NOT meet December 18th & 25th.** We are studying the two letters of Peter. Please bring Bible and Wright commentary book. Led by Claudia Alwood & Garry Justice. Join us as we study God's word! New members are welcome!



If you have children ages 4 years old—5th grade that would like to attend Sunday School, please email Karlee Wright at childrensministry@northwoodpc.org if you have any questions.

Nursery Care Available

Infants and toddlers ages 3 and under are provided care in our excellent nursery during the entire Worship Service and during the Sunday School hour. Please contact Karlee Wright at childrensministry@northwoodpc.org with any questions.

What's Going on in Citylight

We have had a great fall semester and Thanksgiving break. We have enjoyed Citynight on Wednesday nights, game night on Friday, and church on Sunday. During Thanksgiving break we hosted our Annual Youth & Families Friendsgiving and it was a blast! We had youth group, college students and parents attend and all brought food to share. The next day, we went to Metropolitan Ministries and served at their Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. We had a great turnout at both events and we are more than excited for our Christmas events coming up. We have been getting our plans for spring & summer 2023 ready as well. We already know that we are going to be going back to Montreat Youth Conference June 3 - 10, 2023 as well as our annual Music Camp, Backyard Mission Week & VBS. Sign up will be available soon.

In October, we participated in our All Church Retreat, October 21st - 23rd. Families, high school students and college students were invited to spend the weekend at Cedarkirk as one church family. It was such a great weekend out in nature and spending time together. We will invite all of the youth group to join again next year.

Christmas break events - Mark your calendars for December 22nd for our annual Metropolitan Ministries Holiday Drive event, as well as December 11th for our Christmas party, and December 29th for our Christmas break lock-in! Sign up in our Citylight weekly email.

Rock the Universe will take place January 27 - 29 at Universal Studios in Orlando Florida. Middle school - college as well as families, are invited to join in on this amazing weekend of fun and faith! Sign up for this amazing weekend in our Youth & Families weekly email.

We are off to a great start this year with awesome attendance at Citynight and Game Night. We have our middle school growing which is such a blessing! However, we would love to see more students and families in the pews on Sunday morning. You have been missed by your NPC family and are always welcome home.

Ephesians 4:12

"For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ."

Rosalie Bradford, *Director of Youth & Family Ministries*

