

### BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...

**Sunday, December 25:** Bill Bitner, Patty Martin, Bobbi Hunt  
**Monday, December 26:** Jim Warren, Ritchie Henley  
**Tuesday, December 27:** Sally Uhler, Shannon O'Leary  
**Thursday, December 29:** Joyce Worley, Sarah Worley, Georgia Gordon  
**Friday, December 30:** Doug Winder, Kaleb Adkisson  
**Saturday, December 31:** Mark Johnston, Nancy Turner



*If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen them in church recently, give them a call!*

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by*

**Dr. & Mrs. Raymond Linville**  
**In Loving Memory of Our Family—**  
**Present and Past**



**Kay Scheuerman**  
**In Loving Memory of Our Mom**

Flower orders & donation costs for flowers ordered for worship are made using the "2023 Flower Reservation Chart" on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. During this time when we are not meeting for in person worship, please send your information directly to [communications@northwoodpc.org](mailto:communications@northwoodpc.org)

Please remember to mark "flowers" and the date on your \$30 donation.

Thank you to those providing flowers each week In Honor/In Memory of someone or an anniversary/birthday!

### FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD CHURCH TODAY

#### GREETERS:

Kim Blackmore & Early Lusk

Ushers & Greeters



#### USHERS:

Dee Rivers & Polly Brown

*"In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.  
He was in the beginning with God."*

*John 1:1-2*

Readings from the book "God Came Near" by Max Lucado

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

#### **Presbyterian Women**, led by Patty Martin and Sue Miskiewicz

Our monthly meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be January 10th at 10:00am in rooms 4,6 & 8 of the Christian education building. We are using a 9 month study titled "Celebrating Sabbath". If you need a book, they are available for purchase in the church office.

#### **Fresh Brewed.**

Fresh Brewed meets the first Friday of the month at 10:30am. We meet in rooms 5&7 of the Christian Education building. Our next meeting will be January 6th. The book we are studying is *The Relationship Principles of Jesus* by Tom Holladay. If you have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin at 787-9868 or [LVNM1@hotmail.com](mailto:LVNM1@hotmail.com). For help getting a book, contact Marti Huff at [marti.huff.np@gmail.com](mailto:marti.huff.np@gmail.com).

#### **Biblical TakeAways**, led by Claudia Alwood & Garry Justice

The adult Sunday School/Bible Study class meets every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in Rooms 5 & 7. **We will NOT be meeting today, December 25th.** We are studying the two letters of Peter. Please bring Bible and Wright commentary book. New members are welcome!

### Citylight Youth Schedule 12/23/22—1/8/23

#### **Friday 12/23**

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Game Night

Bring a \$10 Gift for the White Elephant Exchange

#### **Saturday 12/24**

4:30 pm - Family Christmas Eve Service

7:00 pm - Traditional Christmas Eve Service

#### **Sunday 12/25**

10:00 am - Christmas Service

No Sunday School

#### **Wednesday 12/28**

No Citynight

#### **Friday 12/30**

10:00 pm - 8:00 am - LOCK-IN - Sign Up & Permission Slip REQUIRED to participate in the LOCK-IN - \$10 per student.

#### **Sunday 1/1**

9:00 am - Contemporary Service

No Sunday School

11:00 am - Traditional Service

#### **Wednesday 1/4**

No Citynight

#### **Friday 1/6**

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Game Night

#### **Sunday 1/8**

9:00 am - Contemporary Service

10:05 am - 10:45 am - Sunday School Brunch

11:00 am - Traditional Service

Follow the link to view our weekly email:

<https://mailchi.mp/ec734a4155c5/citylightupdate322022-13514216>

# Welcome To Northwood Presbyterian Church

*A Stephen Ministry Church*

## December 25, 2022



**Ministers: All Members of the Church**

E. Chris Curvin, Pastor

Paul Means, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission

**Northwood Presbyterian Church**

2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761

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[www.northwoodpc.org](http://www.northwoodpc.org)



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Order for the Public Worship of God  
December 25, 2022  
Nativity of the Lord/Christmas Day  
10:00 AM Worship Service

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY      “I Saw Three Ships”      arr. Anna Laura Page

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*

Leader: Joy has come to our world! The Savior is born!

**People: Let all heaven and earth sing for joy. God has sent His Son into the world to every people, nation, tribe and tongue.**

Leader: Let every heart be receptive to God’s gift of salvation in Jesus Christ.

**All: May the Son of God, born in Bethlehem, be born in us today!**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS      Paul Means, Associate Pastor

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*(Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and pass it toward the center isle.)*

\*CAROL #132      “Good Christian Friends Rejoice”      IN DULCI JUBILO  
*(stanzas 1,3)*

**Good Christians friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

\*CAROL #128      “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”      W ZLOBIE LEZY  
*(stanzas 1,2)*

**Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!**

**Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of the gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!**

\*CAROL #141      “On This Day Earth Shall Ring”      PERSONENT HODIE  
*(stanzas 1,4)*

**On this day earth shall ring with the song children sing  
to the Lord, Christ our King, born on earth to save us;  
him the Father gave us.**

*Refrain: Ee-de-o-o-o, ee-de-o-o-o, ee-de-o gloria in excelsis Deo!*

**On this day angels sing; with their song earth shall ring,  
praising Christ, heaven’s King, born on earth to save us;  
peace and love he gave us. *Refrain***

CALL TO CONFESSION

ST. LOUIS

*(all sing, tune, O Little Town of Bethlehem)*

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Together)*

**Generous God, you give us the greatest gift of all, yourself, but often  
we find it hard to take notice; We are caught up with our own gifts,  
given and received. Forgive us, generous God, for the casual way we  
treat your gift of love. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us to-  
day. (Continue in silence.) ... Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(Responsive)*

One: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

One: God is at work in us even now, bringing Good News to the world  
through us.

**All: Let us glorify and praise God for all we have received in Jesus  
Christ. Amen.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING      “The Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth”  
Larry, Jeanne & Jeremy Stephen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom  
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day  
our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is  
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CALL TO OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY

O TANNENBAUM

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, from every generation.  
Praise God, all creatures here below, who gives to us salvation.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Let all creation praise the Lord with love and adoration.**

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt. Dale A. Schoening, 2001 O TANNENBAUM

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CAROL

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

FRENCH CAROL

**Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here!  
Hear our grateful praises to the babe so dear.**

*Refrain: Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!*

**Angels called to shepherds, “Leave your flocks at rest,  
Journey forth to Bethlehem, find the child so blest.” *Refrain***

**In Bethlehem they found him; Joseph, Mary mild,  
Seated by the manger, watching the holy child. *Refrain***

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

Curtis Krueger

CAROL #143

“Angels, From the Realms of Glory”

REGENT SQUARE

*(stanzas 1,2)*

**Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;  
you who sang creation’s story, now proclaim Messiah’s birth:**

*Refrain: come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King!*

**Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: *Refrain***

STORY *(Babs Bailey)*

“The Arrival”

Max Lucado

CAROL

“He Is Born”

IL ES NE

*Refrain: He is born, the holy Child,  
play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!  
He is born, the holy Child, sing we all of the Savior mild.*

**Thru long ages of the past, prophets have foretold his coming;  
Thru long ages of the past, now the time has come at last! *Refrain***

**O how lovely, O how pure is this perfect child of heaven;  
O how lovely, O how pure, gracious gift to humankind! *Refrain***

**Jesus, Lord of all the world, coming as a child among us,  
Jesus, Lord of all the world, grant to us thy heavenly peace. *Refrain***

STORY *(Jeremy Stephen)*      “Limb Climber or Branch Sitter”      Max Lucado

CAROL

“When Joseph Came to Bethlehem”

CAROL

*(to tune of “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”)*

**When Joseph came to Bethlehem his life seemed all awry.  
His fair young bride was great with child he knew not how or why.  
The angel told him not to fear, to trust God’s guiding hand.  
His Mary, whom he held so dear, was central to God’s plan.**

**When Joseph came to Bethlehem he knelt by Mary’s side.  
He held him fast, her little one, and soothed the newborn’s cries.  
Then watched beside the stable’s door and welcomed great and small.  
The shepherds from their far-off fields, three kings on camels tall.**

**Still Joseph comes to Bethlehem, he greets us there this day.  
He recognizes all our fears, our doubts that lead astray.  
He tells again the angel’s word the trust that set him right.  
Then leads us to his blessed son where darkness blooms with light.**  
*(Printed with permission by J. Barrie Shepherd)*

STORY *(Stephanie Carson)*      “Christmas Night”      Max Lucado

CAROL #112      “On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing”      SUSSEX CAROL  
*(stanzas 1,2,4)*

**On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring;  
on Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring,  
news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King’s birth.**

**Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad;  
then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad,  
when from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?**

**All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night;  
all out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:  
“Glory to God in highest heaven; peace on earth and good will. Amen!”**

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:9-14

Curtis Krueger

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

\*CAROL #134

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

*(stanzas 1,2,4)*

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king.  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, and wonder, wonders of his love.**

\*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Hallelujah Chorus ”

G.F. Handel

*\*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated*

Stephanie Carson, Music Director  
David Furr, Organist