

Get Involved!

Church-wide Yard Sale

Please begin saving your items for the Church wide yard sale that will be held Friday and Saturday, January 16 and 17. Please save your items to drop off between January 4-16. If you have need of an earlier drop off time, call Susan Curry (727) 709-8237 for off-site storage.

Building Renovation Pledge Update

Pledged to date: \$62,293.00. Received \$37,660.25

Pledge Update

As of Monday, December 1, we have received 171 pledge cards totaling \$457,861.00. Additional pledge cards are available.

NPC Food Pantry

Requests are high for food pantry items and supplies are low. Please help by donating canned or jarred food like meats (especially ham and chicken), beef stew, corned beef hash, chili, spaghetti sauce, canned pastas, fruit, vegetables, baked beans, chunky soups, peanut butter, and jelly. Donation baskets are located in the hallways. To make a monetary donation, please indicate "Food Pantry" on your check and place it in the offering plate. For information, contact Pat Rabenstine at 727-785-5080.

Women's Retreat

Does simply thinking about chocolate bring a smile to your face? Then join us and our speaker, Jennifer Weldon, at Café Chocolat for the 2015 Women's Retreat at Cedarkirk on February 6-8. Info can be found on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Mark your calendars and sign up TODAY!

Children's Ministries

Sunday School Classes

See back of bulletin for Sunday School information!

Do you play a Musical Instrument?

Children and youth are invited to play a sacred piece at the 4:30 Christmas Eve service. Contact Justine Ruisz if you're interested.

Nursery Staff Needed

We are looking for paid nursery staff workers to look after children age 4 and under. If interested, please contact Justine Ruisz: (727) 796-8090 or email at childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.

King's Kids

We will be taking a break from November 26 – January 14, 2015, and will resume on January 21st.



ANNOUNCEMENTS—December 7, 2014

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, January 18 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 Chris can be reached at 796-8090.

Important Publication Submission Reminder

Please continue to send all Announcements and publication information to Katie@Northwoodpc.org with a subject line indicating for which publication and what dates the information is to run.

December

Poinsettia Orders

Sign up for poinsettias at the bottom of the Sunday Friendship Sheet. The cost is a \$9 donation for each poinsettia ordered. A listing of those who gave in honor or memory of their loved ones will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletins. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Feller at lpf1967@yahoo.com

Daily Advent Devotionals Available

Devotional books can be found in the racks outside the sanctuary. We hope these daily readings add to your excitement and preparation for the birth of the Christ Child.

2014 Angel Tree Projects

Thank you to everyone who took an Isaiah's Inn and/or Beth-EI angel! Isaiah's Inn gifts (unwrapped) should be dropped off today in the library where they will be picked up after the 11:00 service. Beth-EI Migrant Workers gifts (also unwrapped) should be dropped off next Sunday, December 14.

Renaissance Crew 2nd Thursday Fellowship

We will meet this Thursday at 10:30 in rooms 9 and 11 (please note the change of day to Thursday). Northwood's Associate Director of Music/Organist, Tom Huffman, will present a delightful Christmas music program, "Christmas Carols through the Ages." Following the program we will have lunch at Sunset Grill. Please contact Pastor Paul at 796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org with questions.

December, continued

Christmas is Coming!

Are you challenged to find the affordable perfect gift? Consider an Alternative Gift! For as little as \$5.00 you can honor a special person with a donation in his or her honor to one of eight local, national or international charities. The women of Lydia Circle will be in the narthex each Sunday through December 21 to help you select the perfect benevolence and give you a beautiful card to announce your gift. Questions? Contact Barbara Englehart (727) 743-4886 or Nancy Johnson (727) 366-7705.

Dinner for 6, 7, 8 Christmas Brunch

The annual Christmas Brunch will be held at 12:30 **TODAY** at the home of Ken and Martha Tobiassen, 2727 Westchester Dr. S., Clearwater. Please call Martha at (727) 669-5517 if you have any questions.

Ring, Sing & Mingle is Sunday, December 14

Our Handbell Christmas concert is next Sunday, December 14 at 4:00 p.m. All four bell groups (children, youth and 2 adult) will be performing and everyone will have the chance to sing Christmas Carols and songs to bring us, and ring us, into the Christmas Season. The concert will be followed by a reception of homemade goodies and treats. There will be a freewill offering. Everyone come!

Christmas Cookies Wanted!

A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board across from the kitchen for donations of *homemade* cookies to make our Ring, Sing & Mingle handbell concert even more merry!

Special Ignite Service December 14

Next Sunday's ignite service (9:30) will be a special time with music, carols and other elements including children and youth singing, videos, Voices In Praise, Horns In Praise, and more.

Christmas Cantata is Sunday, December 21

The Chancel choir will present "Darkness into Light" by Mary McDonald at the 8:15 and 11:00 services. The choir will be joined by soloists and instruments presenting the journey and joy of the Christmas experience through beloved carols and exciting new songs.

Christmas Joy Offering, December 21

On December 21 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 racially 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.

December, continued

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services Wednesday, December 24

4:30 pm Children's Pageant with Puppets (Nursery Available)
7:30 pm Choirs & Carols (Nursery Available)
11:00 pm Lessons & Carols with Holy Communion

Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed the following days in December:

- Wednesday, December 24, 2014 at Noon
- Thursday, December 25, 2014
- Friday, December 26, 2014
- Wednesday, December 31, 2014 at Noon
- Thursday, January 1, 2015

Coming in January

Grief Recovery and God's Grace

Beginning Wednesday, January 7 and continuing through Wednesday, February 11, Pastor Paul will lead a six-week educational seminar and support group for persons who are experiencing grief due to death, a life-threatening illness or some other life circumstance. This is not a group therapy program, so while active participation is encouraged, it is not required. The cost for materials is \$25. For more information, please contact Pastor Paul at (727)796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org.

Youth Events

Sunday, December 7: Combined Youth Group 4:15-6:00 p.m.
Friday, December 12: Game Night, 7:00-10 p.m.
Sunday, December 14: Youth Christmas Party following 4:00 p.m.
"Ring, Sing, Mingle" Handbell concert
Friday, December 19: Game Night, 7:00-10 p.m.
Sunday, December 21: No Youth Group

Sunday School

Join us for combined middle/high school Sunday school at both 9:30 and 11:00. We will be studying the "Elements" of our faith.

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