
Northwood Presbyterian Church
 2875 State Road 580
 Clearwater, FL 33761
 A Stephen Ministry Congregation

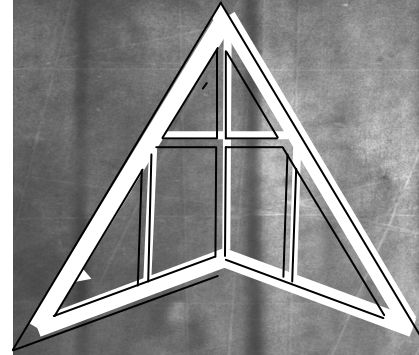
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A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church



The Window

Chartering Organization of Boy Scout Troop 413

December 2018
 Volume 28, No. 11

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



January
11 & 12
8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

Have you been saving all your treasures for the annual Music Ministry Garage Sale? We hope so because the time is here. Donations will be accepted on the following days and times in Room 14 and the Family Life Center:

December 27 & 28, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

December 29, 2018 - 9:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

December 30, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

December 31, 2018 – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

January 2, 3, 4, 5, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

January 6, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

January 7, 8, 9, 2019 – 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

If you need a different time, please call Susan Curry (727) 709-8237.

If you have items that need to be picked up, we will have a truck and trailer available. Please call (727) 709-8237 to arrange for a time.

The Garage Sale will be held on Friday, January 11 and Saturday, January 12 from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The sale can only be successful with your help. Please invite your friends, neighbors and family to donate and to come to the sale. Thank you in advance for your amazing generosity.

Thank you, Stephanie Carson (Director of Music Ministries), Susan Curry (Chairperson).

Welcome New Members!

Please welcome our new members that joined
 us for our November
 Discovering Northwood Class!



9:30
 Nancy Suzor
*Re-Affirmation
 of Faith*



8:15
 Tim Beaver
*Transfer of Letter
 Highland
 Presbyterian
 Lancaster, PA*



At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

December 2018

Sunday, December 16:
8:15 A.M. Cantata Christmas Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Cantata Christmas Service

Sunday, December 23:
10:00 A.M. One Morning Worship Service with Communion.

Monday, December 24: Christmas Eve
4:30 P.M. Family Candlelight Service
7:30 P.M. Traditional Candlelight Service with Choirs & Carols

The church office will close at noon on **Monday, December 24th & remain closed the 25th-26th.** It will reopen **Thursday, December 27th.**

Sunday, December 30:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, January 6: Epiphany
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Friday & Saturday January 11 & 12:
8:00 A.M.– 2:00 P.M. Annual Garage Sale

Sunday, January 13:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, January 20:
10:30 A.M. Discovering Northwood Class
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, January 20:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service
12:00 P.M. Annual Congregational Meeting

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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 2nd Monday of the month.

E-News:
If you are interested in receiving emails with upcoming church events, please send an email with your name and request to communications@northwoodpc.org.

Financial Matters



Have you considered the benefits of directing your IRA distribution to your church?

A Qualified Charitable Distribution permits annual direct transfers to a qualified charity totaling up to \$100,000 of tax-deferred IRA savings. (Funds that have been distributed from the IRA to the IRA owner and are then contributed to charity don't qualify.) QCDs offer advantages over taking a taxable IRA distribution and then contributing the proceeds of that distribution to a charity. That's because taxable IRA distributions must be included in adjusted gross income. As a result:

- Income taxes on Social Security benefits can increase.
- Adjusted gross income (AGI) limitations on annual charitable deductions can defeat current deduction of the charitable contribution of IRA distribution proceeds (carryovers to a limited number of future tax years is available).
- AGI limitations trimming itemized deductions can apply.
- Medicare insurance premiums can increase. QCDs avoid those results. These types of distributions have now been made permanent under the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016. If you'd like to make a gift to Northwood in this way, please speak to Chris Hurst in the church office.

The Christmas Joy Special Offering

Sunday, December 16th, 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.

2018 Contributions

Giving intended for 2018 must be received in the church office by noon on Thursday, December 30 or postmarked no later than December 31, 2018. 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 16) so that the transaction will fully process and qualify for deduction in 2018.

Pledge Cards

Thank you for your faithful answer to God's call in support of the ministry and mission of Northwood Presbyterian Church in 2018. As we finalize the 2019 budget, thank you if you have submitted a pledge card for 2019. If you have yet to make your 2019 pledge, please do so as soon as possible. Pledge cards are available in the Church Office or in the Narthex. Thank you again for all God has done in and through your giving back to Him at Northwood Presbyterian in 2018. We look forward to the work God is preparing for us in 2019.

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.



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 is \$30.98 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 for your gift.

Westminster Choir College

Concert Bell Choir

One of the finest handbell choirs in the world is coming to play a concert in our sanctuary Friday evening, January 18 at 7:00 PM. Please put this on your calendars and invite your friends and family. It is a free concert with a free-will offering being collected. They were here 4 years ago and loved the hospitality of our congregation.



Annual Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for the Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, January 27th. The Meeting starts at 12:00 pm in the Sanctuary. We will hear reports from the Session, the Deacons and their Ministry Teams. We will also be electing new officers, as the Officer Nominating Committee brings its nominations.



Marriage Alive

Marriage Alive is a Christian based marriage support group for couples that meets the first Saturday of every month from 6:00-8:00pm in rooms 4&6 of the Christian Education building. Our next gathering will be **January 5th**. Married couples of all ages are invited to attend. Each family please bring a heavy appetizer to share and child care is always provided. Sharing the seasons of a marriage between families and couples has been proven to strengthen marriages and lead to lifelong friendships. This is also open to couples who may not be members of Northwood. All are invited. Any questions, contact Spencer Briggs at 727-776-9295.

Transportation Ministry

This ministry provides transportation for the 11:00am service. It is for members and friends who are unable to drive themselves to church. Curtis Krueger is the Deacon heading this ministry. Volunteer drivers are always welcome. If you need the service of this ministry, please call the church office at 727 796-8090 by noon on Thursdays.

Alternative Gifts for Christmas!

Are you challenged to find the perfect Christmas gift? Rather than shop for another “thing” consider an Alternative Gift! You can honor someone with a donation to a local, national or international mission for as little as \$5.00. The women of Lydia Circle will be in the Narthex between worship services during Advent (December 16 and 23) to help you choose a benevolence and card to announce your gift. Imagine how happy your loved ones will feel to know you made such a far-reaching and long-lasting impact in their honor! Questions? Contact Barbara Englehart 727-743-4886 or waspfifinella@yahoo.com

Annual Report Deadline

To the Session, Committees, Pastors & Staff: Please note that the deadline to submit your annual report is Monday, January 7th by noon. Please submit your electronic copy to Emily Cantin at communications@northwoodpc.org.

Grief Recovery and God’s Grace

Beginning Thursday, January 17th and continuing through Wednesday, February 21st, Pastor Paul will lead a six week educational seminar and support group for persons who are experiencing grief due to the death of a loved one or for those who are facing grief from other types of significant loss in their life. The time of the seminar is from 12:30 to 2:30. This is not a group therapy program, so while active participation is encouraged, it is not required. The cost for materials is \$5. For more information, please contact Pastor Paul at 727-796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org.

CedarkirkWomen's Retreat

Cedarkirk Women's retreat will be February 8-10, 2019! Join the women of Northwood for an amazing weekend of fellowship, games, crafts, canoeing and nature walks. Enjoy the peaceful beauty of Cedarkirk while staying in a heated lodge, complete with fireplace and kitchen. You won’t want to miss this amazing weekend and our inspirational speaker, Rev. Debra Musgrave-Cox. Info can be found on the bulletin board in the church hallway outside of the kitchen. Any questions, please contact Sharon Brown at



NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Beth-El

Thank you for your donation of \$250. Because of you we strive to help farmworkers meet most of their basic needs, including providing food through our food pantry. You make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

Kathy Dain, Executive Director

Habitat for Humanity

Thank you for supporting Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County with your generous gift of \$640. Your investment helps families in our community with innovative housing solutions. To date, Habitat Pinellas has served 580 families in our community! Mike Sutton, CEO

The Outreach Foundation

We at the Outreach Foundation and our global partners are blessed by your recent gift of \$250 and thank you for your generosity. Our primary goal is to connect God’s people here in the States with God’s work in the world. Thank you for being part of this unique community.

Rob Weingartner, Executive Director

Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission

We are truly grateful to God for the generosity of your congregation with your support of \$500. Thank you for your support, dedication and partnership in furthering God’s mission around the world. You are a valued partner. Sy Hughes, Mission Engagement Advisor

Presbyterian Church (USA) Disaster Assistance Network

Thank you so much for your contribution in the amount of \$1000 to the Florida Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Network. Your generous donation continue our mission support to Florida Presbyteries, churches and communities through disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Alayne Berkins, Secretary

HEP

On behalf of the HEP staff and Board of Directors, we graciously acknowledge your generous gift of \$250. Your donation will help change the lives of homeless and very low income individuals and families who turn to HEP for assistance. Ashley Lowery, President & CEO

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:

Jan Hewlett
Gail Weislogel
Irene Dewitt
Bruce Shugart
Jan Hewlett
Ken Cheek

Given by:

Linda Ciokan
Bill & Bunny Bitner
Bill & Bunny Bitner
Bill & Bunny Bitner
Anonymous
Anonymous

Prayer Ministry

Ken Andreassen, Doris Croasmun, Shirley Gleason, Howard Green, Fred Inkles, Kelly Jordan, Jane Kaempfer, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Helen Meier, Norman Phillips, Marian Rather, David Smith, Gene Snyder, Al & Ethel Holden, Bonnie Beyer, Don Drummond, Connie Zaccari, Jane Urban.

Prayers and Christian sympathies to:

- Evelyn Towns & Jane Sumwalt on the news of the death of their brother, John Nordloh on November 13th.

Prayers for our Military Families

- SrA Benjamin A Cernansky, MacDill AFB, FL.
- SPC Glen Nadig, Ft. Campbell, KY.

If you have an immediate family member in the military that you would like added to our prayer list, please contact us.



Thank you

I wish to thank my church family for the prayer and words of kindness, offered for the recent death of my husband Cliff Zalay. It means a lot to me, my son CJ, and his family. Thank you! The Zalay Family

Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church

Words alone cannot express the sincere appreciation and gratitude for your congregation’s most generous gift. The money will be used to buy food and provide services for the hurricane victims and those in need in our community. We will continue to identify opportunities to help well into 2019. Blessings, Linda Coleman

Christian Education

TCI Class (Today's Christian Issues)

TCI provides a respectful, civil and non-judgmental forum to explore the timely issues we face as Christians, citizens, parents and friends. We ground our discussions in scripture and celebrate the diversity of ideas drawn from experiences and perspectives. TCI chooses topics from suggestions by participants and our leadership team. We meet in rooms 9&11 and we fuel our always-lively conversations with coffee and cookies.

Experiencing God Class

Sundays at 11:00 AM

Every day brings new questions. Should I stay? Should I go? Buy it? Sell it? Start it? Stop it? There is one question you can ask that makes it easy to determine the answer to all the other questions. In our video and discussion series, we will learn how asking this question has the potential to save us time, money and tears. All we have to do is ask it. Come join us!

Sunday Evening Bible Study "Isaiah"

This Sunday evening Bible study meets at 6:30pm in the Parlor. We are studying the Book of Isaiah, using the study guide *Isaiah: Trusting God in Troubled Times* by Howard Psekett. This is a discussion study where we use the ancient writings of Isaiah, discuss his prophecy regarding the future coming of Christ and learn the meaning to us today. Please contact Cindy Huffman 727-409-8727 for more information. Come join us!

Fresh Brewed

Women's Bible Study— Happy New Year and new book for Fresh Brewed! This group meets the First Friday of each month at 10:30am in room 5. On January 4th, we will start with chapter 1: Becoming More Than a Good Bible Study Girl- by Lysa Terkeurst. We also have a video to go with the book. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Sally Uhler, 727-796-7563.

"Journey Through"

"Journey Through" is an adult Sunday school class that meets from 10:45-11:45am in room 4 of the Christian Education building led by Vanessa Celotto. This class coincides with the youth Sunday school class. It's an awesome opportunity for your family to study the Bible cover to cover and grow together especially since you and your youth will be studying the same topics each week, but in a way that's relevant to each of your lives. Don't have a child in the Youth Ministry program? That's okay! The class is open to everyone and it's the perfect place to study the Bible while building relationships with other members of Northwood.

Fun! Friends! Friday! The Ren Crew

The Ren Crew is a group of adventuresome, young at heart 50+ adults that enjoy sharing fun with friends, old and new. We meet in rooms 9&11 the second Friday of the month (September – May). We gather at the church from 10:30 to 11:30 for presentations and conversations that are entertaining, educational and inspiring. Following the presentation the group enjoys going to a different restaurant each month.

Back by popular demand the theme for this year is, again, "Windows to the World."

December 14th— Associate Music director and Organist, Tom Huffman: "Christmas Carols from Around the World." We will meet in the sanctuary this month and will enjoy lunch at Duff's Buffet in Clearwater.

January 18th- Pete & Evelyn Towns will share about their trip to South Korea and with Korean War Veterans Honored.

February 12th- Pastor Paul: Exploring the Grand Canyon's North Rim and Utah's Zion & Bryce Canyon National Parks.

All are welcome! Transportation is gladly provided for those needing a ride. Join us and treat yourself to a Friday filled with fun and friends! For more information, you may contact Pastor Paul Means at 727-796-8090 or email at paul@northwoodpc.org.

Presbyterian Women

Women's Circles



Esther/Elizabeth Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 9:30am in rooms 5 & 7.

Lydia Circle meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 7:00pm in room 5.

Naomi Circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 1:00pm in members homes.

Please come and try out one of our

Children's Ministry



Children's Sunday School

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (18/19 School Year)

Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School worship following the anthem.

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-1st Grade, Room 3

Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour.

2nd-5th Grade, Room 8

Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 8.

11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (18/19 School Year)

Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School worship following the anthem.

Parents Morning Out Thank You

Thank you volunteers and youth helpers who helped with our Parents Morning Out and Elf Breakfast!

Worship Preparation Class

Children 2nd grade – 5th grade are invited to participate in the worship prep class to learn about Sunday worship services and about being Presbyterian. There are two classes; dates are January 27th & February 3rd from 9:30-11:00. On February 3rd a parent class will be available so parents can hear what the children will be learning about. Please let Justine Davis know if your child would like to participate.



Acolytes Needed

Parents, Northwood is in need of acolytes for the 8:15 & 11:00 services. Children must be 2nd grade and up. Training and instruction will be provided. Children will learn the importance of bringing God's light into our worship services and then taking it out into the world. Please contact Justine Davis if your child is available and interested. childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.



- Sunday, December 16th at 10:45am: **Sunday School**
- Sunday, December 16th from 5-6:30pm: **Youth Night**
- Wednesday, December 19th from 6:30-7:30pm: **H.S. Bible Study**
- Friday, December 21st from 5:30-6:30pm: **M.S. Bible Study**
- Friday, December 21st from 7-10pm: **Game Night**
- Saturday, December 22nd from 10-3pm: **Metropolitan Ministries**
- Sunday, December 23rd at 9:30am: **Worship**
- Sunday, December 23rd at 5:30pm: **Christmas Movie Night**
- Saturday, December 29th from 9am-11pm: **Busch Gardens**
- Sunday, December 30th at 9:30am: **Worship**
- Sunday, December 30th from 10:45-noon: **Sunday School Social**
- Friday, January 4th from 7-10pm: **Celebration Station**
- Sunday, January 6th at 9:30am: **Worship**
- Sunday, January 6th at 10:30am: **Citylight Youth/Parent Meeting**
- Sunday, January 6th at 11:00am: **Sunday School**
- Sunday, January 6th from 5-6:30pm: **Youth Night**
- Monday, January 7th from 3-6pm: **Citylight Picture Day**
- Wednesday, January 9th from 6:15-7:30pm: **H.S. Bible Study**
- Friday, January 11th from 5:30-6:30pm: **M.S. Bible Study**
- Sunday, January 13th at 9:30am: **Worship**
- Sunday, January 13th at 10:45am: **Sunday School**
- Sunday, January 13th from 5-6:30pm: **Youth Night**

