



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

DO NOT DELAY
TIME VALUE DATA
EXPEDITE!!!

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

Sent with Prayer to...



December 12,
2016
Volume 26, No. 10

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

Welcome New Members!

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



Marti Huff (11:00)

Hobbies include reading, crochet, knitting, sewing and movies. Transfer of Letter from Presbyterian Church of Burlington, MA.



Sandi Fahy (11:00)

Before retirement Sandi worked as a news correspondent and photographer. Her hobbies include reading, travel and photography.



Shirley Bahner (11:00)

She and her sister, Sandi Fahy, grew up in Daytona, FL. Shirley spent 17 years living in Marietta, GA before moving here to Clearwater.



**January
13 & 14
8:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.**

Our Music Ministry Annual Garage Sale is just around the corner and we need your help in making it the biggest one ever. Our sale is scheduled January 13 & 14, 2017, 8:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M. Make sure to invite everyone to come shop the great bargains!

We are accepting donations of furniture, jewelry, kitchen items, clothes, shoes, toys, holiday items, tools, collectibles, linens, books and outdoor items. Please no old TVs or large entertainment centers. We would love to have a plant area if anyone out there has a green thumb and would like to donate plants. Plastic bags and hangers are also needed.

Please ask your family and neighbors if they have any items they would like to donate.

Our drop-off will begin in Room 14:

- Saturday, December 31st, 9:00 A.M.- Noon
- Sunday, January 1, 8:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.
- Monday, January 2 – Saturday, January 7, 10:00 A.M.– 7:00 P.M.
- Sunday, January 8, 8:00 A.M.- 6:00 P.M.
- Monday, January 9 – Thursday, January 12, 10:00 A.M.- 7:00 P.M.

We will be able to pick up items that you would like to donate by calling Susan Curry (727) 709-8237.

At-A-Glance

December 12, 2016

This Month at Northwood

Sunday, December 18:

8:15 A.M. Cantata: "Morning Star"
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Cantata: "Morning Star"

The church office will be closed at noon on Friday, December 23- December 27. It will reopen Wednesday December 28.

Saturday, December 24:

Christmas Eve Services
4:30 P.M. Family Service
7:30 P.M. Traditional Service
11:00 P.M. Lessons & Carols with Communion

Sunday, December 25:

10:00 A.M. One Service

The church office will be closed Friday, December 30 and Monday, January 2. It will reopen Tuesday, January 3.

Sunday, January 1:

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

Sunday, January 8:

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

Friday & Saturday January 13 & 14:

8:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M. Annual Garage Sale

Sunday, January 15:

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

Friday, January 20- Monday, January 23:

Cedarkirk Women's Retreat

Sunday, January 22:

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

Sunday, January 29:

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

Garage Sale 1

At-A-Glance 2

Church Thank You's 3

Women's Ministry 4

Children & Youth Ministries 5

Adult Education 5

Financial Matters 6

Memorial Gifts 7

News from the Mission Field 7

Prayers & Sympathies 7

Welcome New Members! 8

The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church
Edited by Tracy Donovan

Submissions:

If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, e-mail communications@northwoodpc.org, or place it in Tracy Donovan'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.



Thank You!

Thank you to Boy Scout Troop 413 and our church members for a great fall workday on Saturday, October 29th. There were approximately 40 people that participated; 28 were scouts and their family members. Many hands really did make for light work and the following tasks were accomplished: all tables (round and rectangular) in the Christian Education Building were scrubbed clean of dirt, stains and marks; chairs were wiped down; the Sanctuary was dusted and particular attention was given to the Chancel; trees, scrubs and other foliage was pruned and trimmed; debris was stacked up for city pickup; gutters were cleaned; broken items were repaired; Youth Room fridge and cabinets were cleaned and several items that needed to be discarded were carted to the dumpster. It was a gorgeous day and all of this was followed up by a quick lunch of chili dogs, chips, potato salad, cookies, cake and chocolate ice cream! It's always a great day of fun and fellowship with usually great Florida Fall weather. If you never have, please plan to join us next time!

The Northwood Food Pantry would like to thank all of the Kids' Corner families for bringing in cans of food to donate as a part of their Thanksgiving Feast so that other children, who don't have food, could enjoy a great meal. Giving means so much and we are very grateful that you care to help others.

The Northwood Food Pantry would like to thank Girl Scout Troop 1005 for their help in the food pantry. The girls marked bar codes off cans, put canned goods in the storage cabinets and filled food bags before the Thanksgiving holiday. They also decorated donation boxes that they are placing in the mall to collect food items. Thanks again for all your support!

Hello everyone at Big Frog,
On behalf of the Northwood Presbyterian Church Food Pantry, I would like to thank ALL of you for your most generous donations of food items for the Thanksgiving holiday. This was an outstanding show of support to help those in our community that would otherwise go hungry.

This year we have given out over 320 bags of food to people that have come to the church for help, thus surpassing last year's total of 317 bags.

The NPC food pantry would like to thank everyone that participated in this worthwhile project and we wanted to especially thank Erica for leading this effort. Because of your generosity, residents in our community won't go hungry for the holidays.

Thank you again and many blessings to all of you!

Northwood Presbyterian Food Pantry
Cookie Roffey, deacon

The NPC Food Pantry would like to, again this year, thank Linda and David Feller for their donation of 2 overflowing shopping carts of canned goods. We are so grateful to you for your tremendous support of the food pantry, as it's giving people like you that keep our food pantry thriving. We were overjoyed with this donation and extend our thanks for all you do. Many blessings to you both.

Christian Education

Bailey Shields, Christian Education Team Chair

Women's Ministry



Monday, December 19th, 7:00 P.M.
Lydia Circle, rooms 5 & 7

Tuesday, January 3rd, 9:00 A.M.
Bible Study, room 5

Friday, January 6th, 10:30 A.M.
Fresh Brewed room 5

Tuesday, January 10th, 9:30 A.M.
Esther-Elizabeth Circle, rooms 5 & 7

Tuesday January 10th, 1:00 P.M.
Naomi Circle @ member's home

Monday, January 16th, 7:00 P.M.
Lydia Circle, rooms 5 & 7

Monday, January 23, 10:00 A.M.
Book Club, rooms 13 & 15

Questions?

Contact Patty Martin
(813) 855-0851 or
bill.martin2@verizon.net

Cedarkirk Women's Retreat January 20-23

Need a gift idea for a special woman in your life? How about a relaxing weekend at our Women's Retreat? We'll make up a special gift card, and wrap it for you as well. Grab a brochure or simply ask Sharon Brown, Jeanne Stephen or Diana Fisher. We'll be glad to help you get this great gift rolling!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

8:15 AM Children's Christian Education

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (16/17 School Year)
Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School following the anthem.

9:30 AM Children's Christian Education

3 Yr. Olds- Kindergarten, Room 3
Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour.

1st-2nd Grade, Room 2

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

3rd-5th Grades, Room 8

Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front Sanctuary rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 8.

11:00 AM Children's Christian Education

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (16/17 School Year)
Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School following the anthem.

Parents, if you wish for your children to receive communion, please have them remain with you in the worship service on Communion Sundays. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact Elder Dawn Winder, Chair of Worship Team.

9:30 AM Middle & High School Christian Education

Middle & High School Sunday School during the 9:30am service will meet in the sanctuary to worship together for the first 30 minutes, then move to the youth room for the lesson with Youth Director, Jon Drawdy.



- Mon, Dec. 19: Middle School Event
- Tues, Dec. 20: Young Adult Event 5:00-7:00 P.M.
- Wed, Dec. 21: High School Go-Karting Trip 2:00-4:00 P.M.
- Sun, Jan. 8: Youth Group Family Dinner Kick-Off 5:00-6:30 P.M.
- Wed, Jan. 11: High School Bible Study 6:15-7:15 P.M.
- Fri, Jan. 13: Off-Campus Game Night 7:00-10:00 P.M.
- Sat, Jan. 14: Winter Jam 3:30 P.M.
- Sun, Jan. 15: Youth Group 5:00-6:00 P.M.
- Wed, Jan. 18: Bible Study 6:15-7:15 P.M.

Jon Drawdy, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
youthdirector@northwoodpc.org

Adult Ministry

TCI Class

(Today's Christian Issues)
Sundays at 9:30 AM, Rooms 9&11

Serendipity Class

Sundays at 9:30 AM
Is combining with TCI class during the holiday season.

Experiencing God Class

Sundays at 11:00 AM, Room 15

Sunday Bible Study

6:30-7:30 P.M. in rooms 4 & 6
Will resume January 15. Please contact Cindy at (727) 409-8727 if you have any questions.

Fun! Friends! Friday! Ren Crew

The Ren Crew is a group that delights in sharing fun with friends, old and new, on 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 a different restaurant each month.

The Ren Crew programs continue the theme of "Windows to the World" for the spring of 2017. The following presentations open "different windows to the world" as Northwood members share their fascinating travel experiences from here in the U.S. and from around the world.

- January 13 Linda Howard: Enjoying Nature, State Parks and Hidden Gems in the Sunshine State
- February 10 Jenny Hamilton (granddaughter of Dean and Pat Rabenstein): Living and Teaching English in the Marshall Islands
- March 10 Art Holloway: Seeing China and the Great Wall
- April 14 Good Friday: Joint worship service at Heritage Methodist Church (UMC) at noon
- May 12 Heather Villafranca: Exploring the Beauty and History of Western Europe

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! Questions? Contact Paul Means: paul@northwoodpc.org or (727) 796-8090.

Children's Ministry

Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry

Drop N' Shop Report

We had a very successful Drop N' Shop event. Thank you to the wonderful adult and youth volunteers for helping with this event. I think the volunteers had just as much fun as the children. We had 20 kids attend and they learned about Chrismon Ornaments; their meanings and importance during the Christmas season. Stop by the children's ministry bulletin board to see the pictures from Drop N' Shop. We look forward to doing this again next year!

King's Kids

King's Kids will resume on Wednesday, January 25th and then run through Wednesday, March 29th. This is our Wednesday program for children ages 3 through 5th grade. It runs from 4:00 to 5:45 p.m. throughout the school year. This is a mid-week program to help build friendships in a Christian environment, and strengthen faith, bringing children closer to God.

Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry
Childrensministry@northwoodpc.org
(727)796-8090 Cell/text- (727)641-8140

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.

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 for 2016 is \$28.62 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.

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.

Christmas Joy Offering

Sunday, December 18, 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.

2016 Contributions

Giving intended for 2016 must be received in the church office by noon on Thursday, December 29 or postmarked no later than December 31, 2016. 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 26) so that the transaction will fully process and qualify for deduction in 2016.

Caring for Our Church Family



Prayer Ministry

Ken Andreassen; Burt Benziger; Doris Croasmun; Shirley Gleason; Howard Green; Fred Inkles; Lou Hortobagyi; Kelly Jordan; Jane Kaempfer; Diane Luke; Lois Marsh; Mildred Martin; Robin MacLennan; Curtis McLeod; Helen Meier; Norman Phillips; Marian Rather; David Smith; Charline Snow; Gene Snyder; Lucille Talbot; Al & Ethel Holden; Bill & Jane Sutton; Bonnie Beyer

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:

Fay Holzhauser
Rees Heycock
Rees Heycock
Rees Heycock
Rees Heycock
Rees Heycock
Rees Heycock
Rees Heycock
Rees Heycock

Given by:

Jane Urban
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Bill & Patty Martin
Jessie & Earle Lusk
June McMaster & Etta Stratten
Don Downer
Bill & Bunny Bitner
Elaine Pivovarnik
Chuck & Sherril Anderson

In Honor of:

Bonnie Beyer
Jane Urban

Given by:

Jane Urban
Lorrie Jamusik

Grief Recovery and God's Grace

Beginning Monday, January 23 and continuing through Monday, February 27, 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 other traumatic life circumstances. The time of the seminar is from 1:30 to 3:30. This is not a group therapy program, so while active participation is encouraged, it is not required. The cost for materials is \$15. Scholarships are available. For more information, please contact Pastor Paul at 727-796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org.

We extend our prayers and Christian sympathies to:

- Beverly and John Ouwinga on news of the death of Beverly's mother, Nellie Elzerman, on October 16.
- Jeri Heycock upon the news of the death of her husband, Rees Heycock, on November 17.
- Ginny Zimmer and family on news of the death of Ginny's father, Leo Steible, on November 23.
- Katie and Eric Pacana on the news of the death of Eric's father, Ron Pacana, on December 6.

News From the Mission Field

HEP

We gratefully acknowledge your generous donation of the toiletries, paper products, and feminine hygiene products. This year, HEP celebrates 30 years of service to the greater Tampa Bay area community. The organization has grown tremendously over the last three decades, but the overarching goal of founders Otis & Barb Green remains the same: to be the last homeless shelter an individual or family ever has to access. With the kindness of donors like you, we celebrate thirty years of 'helping people help themselves' and look forward to many more. —Terrance McAbee, President & CEO

RCS

Thank you for your generous donation of \$497.20 to The Haven of RCS. Your gift will go a long way toward helping our Pinellas neighbors— by feeding the hungry, returning families who are homeless to self-sufficiency and empowering the survivors of domestic violence. Thank you for your support. —Jeff Muller, Chair, RCS Board of Directors

Habitat for Humanity

Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$640 to Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County. Your investment helps families in our community achieve what they thought was just a dream. Your support allows us to remain focused on our mission to promote family stability through innovative housing solutions. —Mike Sutton, CEO