



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


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Donations Accepted at Northwood Presbyterian

We gladly accept donations of the following items. If you wish to donate anything outside this list, please contact the church office. Thank you for your generosity!



Medicine Bottles
Donations of pill bottles collected at Northwood are delivered to the Clearwater Free Clinic, which provides medicine at low cost to its patients, who are primarily the uninsured working poor and their children. When donating your bottles, be sure the pill bottles are clean, both inside and out, with the labels and glue residue removed. The clinic's staff is grateful for Northwood's contributions!



Can Tabs
Please collect tabs from cans of soda, soup, etc. and then bring them to the church and put them in the basket by the entrance nearest to the church office. These donations will go to Shriners Hospitals for Children to help children in need!



Canned Food
Canned Meats
Canned Ravioli
Canned Pasta
Canned Chili
Canned Tuna
Canned Baked Beans
Canned Chunky Soup
Canned Fruits
Peanut Butter
Jelly

These canned foods are used to make up our food pantry bags that are given to those in need in our local community.



A Stephen Ministry Congregation
Northwood Presbyterian Church
The Window
October 16, 2017
Volume 27, No. 8
2875 State Road 580, Clearwater, FL 33761
727-796-8090 Main Office
727-723-7679 Preschool, Before & After Care
www.northwoodpc.org

Dear Friends,

I want to once again say thank you for your cards of concern about my recent experience with a detached retina. In order for the eye to fully heal, I was forced to spend considerable time lying face down, doctor's orders. Thankfully the eye has fully healed with my only restriction being no heavy lifting. (My doctor still requires my wife, Joyce, to mow the lawn and take out the garbage!)

My time of recovery, especially in August, allowed me to work horizontally from home. I found great enjoyment in participating in staff and committee meetings by phone and keeping up with things through email with staff and many of you who I asked to keep me in touch! You did! Your letters and contacts were a constant source of encouragement to me! My recovery time also allowed me to do considerable reading and study to make plans for our church life together as we soon enter our 40th anniversary as a congregation in 2018.

Speaking of eyesight, from mid-October to Sunday, November 12th I will be sharing a series of sermons on the theme, "Sharing God's Vision" which is also our 2018 Stewardship Campaign. First Timothy 6:18 states, "Do good, be rich in good deeds, and be generous and willing to share." It is a vision of a God-given dream for us, a picture of what God envisions for our lives and His church to be. I will be offering a great number of references from the Bible which support this theme for the five messages of this series.

Sharing in God's vision is so important given the many major challenges facing our country and world just now. God's vision is that His church and His people are to do something positive and constructive about the challenges we face. I ask you to pray during this time, "God, how do you want me to fulfill my time, talent and financial commitment to Your church? Lord, help me to share in your vision for my life to be more generous to Your church through my prayers, presence in worship, financial gifts, and my Christian service."

It is my belief that God calls us individually and as His church to be beacons of hope and light in a darkened world. I can only imagine the impact our church could have if we shared God's vision, "Do good, be rich in good deeds, and be generous and willing to share." Our Stewardship Team will send out a letter with a pledge card this month asking you to make an increased financial gift which reflects your priorities for the coming year. We ask that you return a pledge card on Dedication Sunday, November 12, or as soon as you can thereafter.

Making and keeping a financial commitment is easy. Simply complete and return the commitment card. Cards will be available every Sunday and one will also be mailed to you. You may pay your pledge online through the church website, www.northwoodpc.org or make a gift by check, bank draft, stock gift, credit card or text. Every single gift counts, (no matter the amount), and is vital to our the church as we participate in God's vision. Please make your commitment today! If you have never made a pledge before, we ask that you commit to support the life and ministries at Northwood in 2018. If you currently pledge, we thank you, and ask that you renew your pledge and consider increasing it for 2018.

Finally, thank you for your giving thus far this year. Don't stop! The greatest giving in most every congregation takes place in the last quarter of the year. If you want to make financial gift, over and above your annual pledge to the church, please contact me or our Business Administrator, Chris Hurst, in our church office. We can suggest a number of needs, both within the church and in our mission giving, that would greatly benefit. I also want to thank you to those who have taken sharing God's vision to heart by generously remembering Northwood in their will and estate planning. There are a great number of stories I could share about those who made such plans which have continued to provide generous support in our sharing of God's Vision.

Your pastor and friend,
Chris Curvin

Sharing
God's Vision



**Dedication Sunday is
November 12th**

At-A-Glance

October 16, 2017

This Month at Northwood

Friday, October 20– Sunday, October 22
Cedarkirk All-Church Retreat

Sunday, October 22:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, October 25:
4:00- 5:45 P.M. King's Kids
6:00- 6:40 P.M. WAY Dinner
6:40-7:15 P.M. Wednesday Program

Sunday, October 29:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 1:
4:00- 5:45 P.M. King's Kids
6:00- 6:40 P.M. WAY Dinner
6:40-7:15 P.M. Wednesday Program

Sunday, November 5:
Blanket Sunday
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 8:
4:00- 5:45 P.M. King's Kids
6:00- 6:40 P.M. WAY Dinner
6:40-7:15 P.M. Wednesday Program

Sunday, November 12:
Dedication Sunday
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, November 15:
4:00- 5:45 P.M. King's Kids
6:00- 6:40 P.M. WAY Dinner
6:40-7:15 P.M. Wednesday Program

Sunday, November 19:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
10:45 A.M. Discovering Northwood Class
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

The church office will close at Noon on Wednesday, November 22 and will reopen Monday, November 27.

Visit us at
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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.

Caring for Our Church Family

Thank you Northwood Family!

Thank you to my Northwood friends and family for the many cards and phone calls during my dear husband, John's, illness and death. A big thanks to Pastor Paul for his communication and memorial coordination. Thank you to Pastor Chris for the support he showed the day of the service.

God Bless,
Janet George

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; Bill & Jane Sutton; Bonnie Beyer

Our Sympathies and Prayers

We extend our prayers and Christian sympathy to the friends and family of Pauline Jensen upon the news of her death on October 9.



Constant Contact Emails

If you have not been receiving the emails from Northwood please call or email Tracy Donovan in the church office so we can get you on the contact list. (727) 796-8090 or communications@northwoodpc.org

NPC VITALS

Weather: Sunny
Sunday, October 1, 2017
(8:15) 111
(9:30) 150
(11:00) 148
Total: 409



Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:

John George
John George
John George
John George
John George
Corinne Winder
Carmele Andrews
John George
John George
John George
Carmele Andrews
John George
Bob Thygeron
Edna Bechtold
Corinne Winder
John George
Bob Thygeron
Lois Marsh
Carmele Andrews
Bob Thygeron
Lois Marsh
Lois Marsh
Lois Marsh
Carmele Andrews
Carmele Andrews
Carmele Andrews
Carmele Andrews
Carmele Andrews
John Merelo

Given by:

Linda O'Leary
Lorrie Janusik
Barbara Moler
Mary Ann Architetto-Carroll
Anonymous
Anonymous
Cindy Whiteside
Ray & JoAnne Spigarelli
Jean Swintek
Kay Scheuerman
Kay Scheuerman
Bill & Diana Swales
Jean Swintek
Bonnie Kissling
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Joe & Mary Ellen Zeigler
Anonymous
Linda Ciokan
Jean Swintek
Anonymous
Dewey & Blanche Parsons
Barbara Schlerf
Bette & Paul Holloway
Holloway Family
Jean Swintek
PW Book Group
Don & Polly Hamilton



Christian Education

Bailey Shields, Christian Education Team Chair

Adult Ministry

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 going to a different restaurant each month.

The theme for this year is, again, "Windows to the World." Listed below is an educational, entertaining and inspiring slate of Ren Crew programs for the fall of 2017.

Nov. 10: B. Englehart and N. Johnson: Barbara and Nancy's Incredible Journey—From Kuala Lumpur to Singapore, Vietnam, and Hawaii.

Dec. 9: Associate Music Director and Organist, Tom Huffman- Christmas Carols from around the World

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, contact Pastor Paul Means at 727-796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (17/18 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- 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 Grade, Room 4

Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 4.

11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (17/18 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.

Childcare for children 3yrs-5th grade who attended Sunday school at 9:30 will be in room 2.

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 will meet this week! All youth are invited to attend worship together in the Sanctuary at 9:30 Ignite service for the first 20 minutes, then move to the Youth Room for Bible Study.



This Week in the Life of Our Youth:

Sundays: 9:30 Sunday School in youth room
5:00-6:30 P.M. Youth Group
Wednesdays: 6:30 High School Bible Study
Fridays: 7:00-10:00 P.M. Game Night

We are always in need of any adult volunteers to help out on Friday Game Nights with our youth. They meet from 7-10:00pm here at Northwood. If this is something that you may be interested in, please contact Emily Cantin at youthdirector@northwoodpc.org. Thanks!!

Cedarkirk Youth Fall Fusion Trip

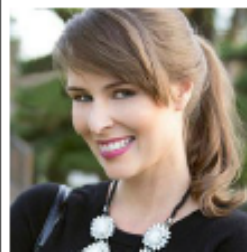
November 10th-12th: Cost will be \$35 per youth and they will be staying in the Rustic Cabins. Please email if your youth has interest in attending.

Pancake Breakfast

December 3 our youth will be hosting a pancake breakfast in the Fellowship Hall after all 3 services. Come join us to help support the youth summer trip!

Volunteers are always needed for youth activities! Parents, please sign up for one of our exciting events or projects by emailing Emily Cantin at youthdirector@northwoodpc.org.

Director of Youth and Family Ministry



We welcome Vanessa Celotto as our new Director of Youth and Family Ministry. Vanessa grew up as an "Army brat" and spent her life hopping from place to place with no real roots until she settled in Los Angeles in 2008. While in California she became a Christian and her curiosity about Jesus led her to attend Liberty University where she will soon graduate with a B.S. in Christian Ministries with a focus on Youth Ministry. She has served previously by assisting in Children's Ministry and discovered in her call to ministry a passion to serve youth and their families. A longer bio of Vanessa can be found on Northwood's website. Welcome Vanessa!

Children's Ministry

Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry

King's Kids

King's Kids is back in action and we are excited for the new session. If you are interested in volunteering and helping with this program you are welcome. We could use help with assisting in Music and with the transitions from one activity to the next. We meet every Wednesday afternoon from 4:00-5:45 through Nov. 15th, come see what King's Kids is all about. King's Kids is open to all kids ages 3 (must be potty trained) – 5th grade. Questions? Contact Justine Ruisz at (727) 796-8090 or childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.

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

Women's Ministry

Fresh Brewed Bible Study meets Friday, November 3 at 10:30 A.M. in Room 5.

Our Presbyterian Women Circles are continuing their study titled, "Cloud of Witnesses, The Community of Christ in Hebrews" by Melissa Bane Sevier.

- Pastor Curvin will teach Lesson 3 to the PW Council on Tuesday, November 7 in Rooms 5 & 7 at 9:00 A.M.
- Esther-Elizabeth Circle meets in rooms 5 & 7 on Tuesday, November 14 at 9:30 A.M.
- Naomi Circle meets in the home of a member on Tuesday, November 14 at 1:00 P.M.
- Lydia Circle meets in rooms 5 & 7 on Monday, November 20 at 7:00 P.M.

Questions? Please contact Sue Miskiewicz at susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com or (727) 799-6767



Around Northwood

Blanket Sunday is November 5

It's that time of year again. Please be thinking about picking up new or setting aside gently used blankets, sheets, suitcases and cash donations that we can give to help meet the needs of the migrant farmworkers this winter. Once again, the blankets and suitcases will be donated to Beth-El Ministries. Please contact Sue Miskiewicz with any questions or for pickup of these items at 727-799-6767 or susan.miskiewicz@yahoo.com. This is a wonderful ministry and is a blessing to the people supported by Beth-El. The workers and their families use the blankets in creative ways, such as; room dividers for privacy, along with the typical use of a blanket for providing warmth. Thank you for sharing the love of Jesus in this way!

SAVE THE DATE! Women's Retreat

January 19-22

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. More info coming soon!


Save the Date for Special Music Offerings

December 10: 9:30 Ignite Service,

Special Christmas Program


December 10: 'Ring, Sing & Mingle' Handbell Concert, Carol Sing and Reception 4:00 P.M.

December 17: 8:15 & 11:00 Traditional Services Cantata 'Carol Suites' by Mark Hayes



Support Kids' Corner Preschool

Please consider supporting Northwood Presbyterian's Kids' Corner Preschool this year. They have a Target Registry for items they would like to have to enhance their classes. You can find their wish list online at www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/kids'corner. Items can be dropped off to the church or school office. If you have any questions you can contact Angie Miele Surowiec or Emily Cantin at (727) 723-7679 or email at schooldirector@northwoodpc.org. Thank you for your generosity!




2017 Wonderful Wednesdays Series

October 11– November 15

WAY Dinners and program series are October 18, 25, November 1, 8 & 15. The dinner is 6:00-6:40 and is followed by a program led by our pastors, "What Makes Christianity, Christianity?" from 6:40-7:15. Reservation forms are located in the folder outside of the kitchen. See reservation form for more information. Don't forget to invite a friend and use pink reservation side to reserve their free first meal!

Our program series will be drawing on the classic book, *Basic Christianity*, written by John Stott and we will be exploring the questions, "Who does Jesus say he is?" and "What does this mean for us who live in the 21st Century?" This literary work has sold over 2.5 million copies, been translated into over 60 languages and was named a "Book of the Century" by *Christianity Today*. Best-selling author and Presbyterian pastor, John Ortberg, says, "*Basic Christianity* is a simple, clear, deep explanation of our faith. I am so grateful for the lucid elegance of this invitation to follow Jesus." Come join us we seek to grow in faith, hope and love.

For more information on any of our Wednesday programs contact the church office at (727) 796-8090.

Halloween Candy for Music Ministry

If you have leftover Halloween candy or find some good BOGO deals, the music ministry will gladly accept your donations. We use the candy as incentives in our children's choirs. Thank you for your generosity! Any questions? Contact Stephanie Carson, (727) 796-8090.



Think on These Things

An Intelligent, Imaginative, Hospitable Reading Group



A monthly reading group, Think On These Things, led by Pastor Paul meets at 1:15 P.M. in rooms 13 and 15 on Monday, November 20 and December 18. The theme for the group is "Engaging books a thoughtful Christian ought to read."

November 20th *The Screwtape Letters* written by C. S. Lewis

December 18th *Handel's Messiah: Comfort for God's People* by Calvin R. Stapert

People are welcome to bring a lunch or snacks. Join us on the third Monday of the month for intelligent, imaginative, hospitable conversation. For more information, contact Pastor Paul Means at 727-796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org.

Composer Weekend

March 17-18, 2018

With Joel Raney



Joel Raney is consistently one of the top selling church music composers working today. We are fortunate at Northwood to be able to secure him for the second of our Composer Weekends. Raney will share in our Sunday morning worship services as well as lead our choirs and perform on piano at a Sunday afternoon concert. Save the date. This is not to be missed!

Church Photo Directory

We're making good progress toward a complete church photo directory, but we need YOU to participate! We only have a few sign up days left!

Scheduled photography dates are:

October 27 (1:00- 8:00 P.M.)

October 28 (10:00 A.M.– 5:00 P.M.)

December 27 (12:00– 7:00 P.M.)

Added to accommodate visiting students/relatives

January 24 (1:00- 8:00 P.M.)

January 25 (10:00 A.M.– 5:00 P.M.)


January 26 (1:00- 8:00 P.M.)

January 27 (10:00 A.M.– 5:00 P.M.)

February 6 (1:00- 8:00 P.M.)

Lighting the Advent Wreath

It's time once again to start thinking about Advent and what you will do to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Has it become a family tradition for you to light the Advent wreath at Northwood? Call Linda now to schedule your time for this year! Never done it before? That's ok! We'll spend time with you showing you what to do and providing you with the accompanying scripture several days in advance so you can practice reading it. Are you a single? No problem...invite a friend to join you for this meaningful act of worship! Don't delay, Advent begins December 3 this year! You can reach Linda Feller at (727) 385-5629 or bikingranger@gmail.com.




Pancake Breakfast



Sunday, December 3rd our youth will be hosting a pancake breakfast in Fellowship Hall after all 3 services to help fund the youth summer trip. Come join us!

Beth-El Angel Tree

Northwood will be supporting the Beth-El Farmworkers Ministry in Hillsborough County again this year. The gift requests will be on multicolored angels on the Christmas tree starting November 26. Gifts range from \$1.00 up. Please bring unwrapped gifts and place under the tree by December 11th. For information contact Evelyn Towns (727) 785-3743.



Beth-El Adopted Families' Angel Tree



It's that time of year when we have the opportunity to help our adopted families with Christmas! On Sunday, November 19th, 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. (Gifts should cost \$15-\$20) Please make sure you sign out the angel in the church library before taking it home. Gifts should not be wrapped and should be returned to the Christmas tree area by Sunday, December 3rd. For information contact Pam Means at (727) 386-0747 or Nancy Johnson at (727) 366-7705.