



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

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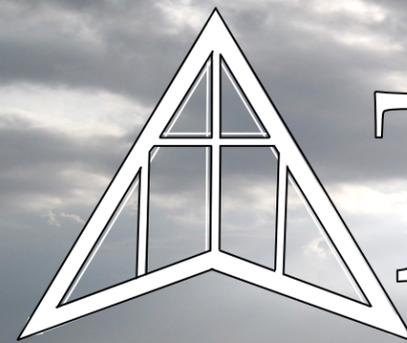
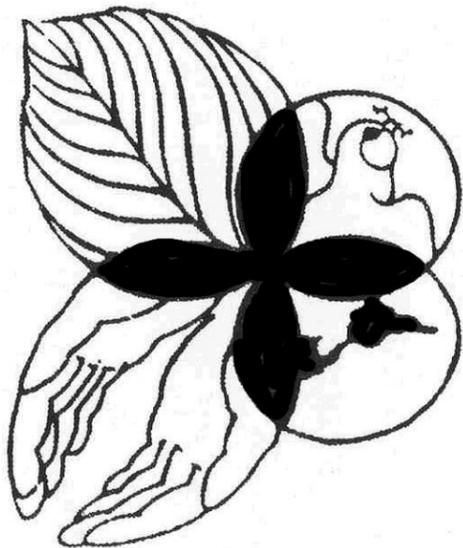
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Sent with Prayer to...

**PW Welcomes New Honorary
Lifetime Members**

Congratulations to Janet George and Barbara Schlerf who were awarded Honorary Lifetime Memberships at the Gifts-of-Women Sunday service on March 16. They join an esteemed group of women who have faithfully and generously served the church. Each woman was presented with a certificate and pin and their names have been added to the plaque in the narthex.

The symbols on the pins and plaque represent and portray the qualities of persons deserving the honor and recognition of an Honorary Life Membership. The overall design is of a **butterfly**, a symbol of newness in Christ and the emergence of a new creation – Presbyterian Women. The **caring, supportive hands** represent women who seek to build an inclusive community of Presbyterian Women. The **leaf** represents growth of our personal and corporate response to Jesus Christ as we nurture our faith. The **dove** indicates our work for peace in our own lives and throughout the world, shown in the globe. At the center of the design is the **cross**, by which our sins are forgiven and we are freed to live in Christ who is at the center of our lives.



A Stephen Ministry Congregation

The Window

Northwood Presbyterian Church

April 15, 2014
Volume 24, No. 4

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

We Have A New Tree!

Some of you noticed the dead tree on the pre-school playground. We had been watching it for more than a year with the hope that the downward trend it appeared to be on would reverse itself. But as our winter began to turn to spring it was apparent that even the smallest sign of life was gone. Since licensing for the school requires a certain amount of shade, either another tree or something manmade was required. While the children were on Spring Break, March 24-28, the dead tree was removed, a hole was dug and a new 24 foot, 10 inch caliper tree with a fourteen foot spread was planted. The entire process was fun to watch with special equipment being brought on campus for each of the steps. Now the time of care and nurturing for the tree that started at the nursery will be continued with us. Be sure you take a look at our beautiful new tree when you pass by the playground. Thank you for your generous support of the ministry and mission of our church. Your gifts make projects like this possible.

A three and a half minute video of the project is available on the church website if you would like to see clips of the three day project. Just go to www.northwoodpc.org/tree.



Vacation Bible School
June 23-27, 2014

- Who?** Children 4 yrs. old (as of 9/1/14) through 5th grade (2013-2014 school year)
Registration is now open to everyone
- When?** Registration is now open to everyone
- Where?** Northwood Presbyterian Church
2875 State Road 580
Clearwater, FL 33761
(1 mile E of Countryside Mall)
- How Much?** Registration is \$10 per child, \$15 day of. (Optional VBS t-shirts are \$5.00 per child)
Note: Registration fee is waived for children of full-time VBS volunteers and for children registered for the Northwood Child Care Summer Camp.

How Do I Register?
Register online at www.northwoodpc.org.
Click on the "Register for VBS" link and follow the instructions provided.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry, at 727-796-8090 or at childrensministry@northwoodpc.org.



At A Glance

April 15, 2014

This Month at Northwood

Sunday, April 20th:
EASTER SUNDAY
 8:15 AM Traditional Service
 9:30 AM IGNITE Service, Outside
 11:00 AM Traditional Service

Sunday, April 27th:
YOUTH SUNDAY
 8:15 AM Traditional Service
 9:30 AM IGNITE Service
 11:00 AM Traditional Service

Sunday, May 4th:
SCHOOLS SUNDAY
 8:15 AM Traditional Service
 9:30 AM IGNITE Service
 11:00 AM Traditional Service

Sunday, May 11th:
Mother's Day
 8:15 AM Traditional Service
 9:30 AM IGNITE Service
 11:00 AM Traditional Service

Sunday, May 18th
 8:15 AM Traditional Service
 9:30 AM IGNITE Service
 11:00 AM Traditional Service
 11:00 AM New Member Class

Sunday, May 25th:
 8:15 AM Traditional Service
 9:30 AM IGNITE Service
 11:00 AM Traditional Service

Monday, May 26th:
 Memorial Day, Office Closed

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The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church
 Edited by Katie Pacana

Submissions:

If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, e-mail Katie@northwoodpc.org, or place it in Katie Pacana's box in the church office. The deadline is the 2nd Monday of the month.

E-News:

If you are interested in receiving the bi-weekly Monitor via our e-news system, please send an email with your name and request to Katie@northwoodpc.org.

From the PASTOR'S DESK

Rev. E. Chris Curvin, Pastor

"The Castaway Palms"

Dear Members and Friends of Northwood,

I write this letter to you after having just returned home this Palm Sunday from a full day of three morning worship services and a wonderful afternoon Lenten Cantata. (By the time you receive this letter, the worship we enjoyed during Holy Week and Easter will be over.) However, today was a wonderful Sunday of worship at Northwood in which palm branches were waved to welcome Jesus Christ as Lord and King of our lives!

Let me first say a good word about the cantata. The interaction of the cantata's drama, lighting, narration, nails, instruments, organ, and the choir under the leadership of Stephanie Carson and Tom Huffman was truly outstanding! So many people said to me how beautiful the cantata was this year, and it was beautiful.

The Palm Sunday Cantata, the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services as well as Easter worship always remind me of how music is such a gracious gift of God. Both traditional and contemporary music helps us to express the inexpressible; it lifts our spirits when our spirits need lifting; it strengthens faith and most of all enables us to give glory to God for what God has done for us in Jesus Christ.

I'm especially reminded that the music we hear and sing at Easter helps us to meet the highest and deepest in our lives, namely God and God's promises. The music of the hymn, song or anthem combined with instrumental music and drama are "signing points" beyond themselves to the One we have come to honor and praise.

Music certainly helps us to express what we cannot express with words alone. I'm mindful every Sunday of this as I know people bring with them sorrows as well as joys to worship. I often hear from those leaving on Sunday saying worship helped them to be re-charged for what they face ahead. I hear almost every Sunday someone say, "This is just what I needed!" Worship and Music is such a gift from God.

With all this said, I remember leaving church tonight after such a full day and there on the ground lay Sunday's palm branches. The castaway palm branches tell us that worship and praise and parades can become, if we are not careful, only frivolous moments; matters of habit only. Some years ago a man I met on a trip said to me, "Pastor, you religious people worship Jesus, but I don't often see that loyalty in the world of business where I live." I agreed with him that sometimes we honor Christ as our King with our lips but not with our lives. When that happens our praise to Him becomes like castaway branches, ground under foot.

One of the challenging words which Jesus said was this, "Not everyone who says, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom." That should strike at our hearts on Palm Sunday and our Easter celebrations. The castaway palms remind us that some people come to cheer Jesus only on special occasions, the up-times like Easter, but they don't honor our Lord as King during the ordinary times of the year.

As you come to worship now after Easter I encourage you to note the birthdays listed in the bulletin. If it has been a while since you have seen or spoken to someone on the list, give them a call and let them know that you have missed seeing them in worship. Worship is God's gracious gift to us and we don't want anyone to miss out on this great gift! And all God's people said, "Amen!"

Chris Curvin, Pastor

Christian Education

Susan Curry, Christian Education Team Chair

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

Sunday, April 27th:
Youth Sunday, lunch at Jason's Deli

Friday, May 2nd:
7-10 p.m. Game Night

Sunday, May 4th:
4:15-5pm Middle School Youth group
5-6pm Combined Middle & High School
6-6:45pm High School Youth Group

Friday, May 9th:
7-10 p.m. Game Night

Sunday, May 11th:
No Youth Group, Happy Mother's Day

Friday, May 16th:
7-10 p.m. Game Night

Sunday, May 18th:
Seniors Recognized in Worship
End of the Year Banquet

Sunday School: Every Sunday at 9:30am and 11:00am in the Youth Room. Join us before or after the service you worship!

Conyers Registration

Conyers is June 8-14. Registration forms are now available in the youth room and on the youth bulletin board. The cost is \$200 per person. Sign up and place your deposit TODAY!

VBS YOUTH GUIDE REGISTRATION

Look for forms on the Bulletin Board or sign up online: www.northwoodpc.org.

Scholarship Application Time

NPC members who are high school seniors, college/vocational students or grad students are encouraged to pick up guidelines/applications from the church office now. Applications are due June 1, 2014. See form for requirements.

End of the Year Banquet

Mark your calendars for the End of the Year Banquet on May 18th from 5-7pm at church. This is for all Youth including graduation 5th Graders! See you there.

Attention Graduating Seniors

Please submit your pictures and post graduation plans to Katie Pacana by May 4th. Pictures can be dropped off in the office or e-mailed to Katie@Northwoodpc.org

EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (13/14 School Year) Room 3, dismissed to the multi-age Sunday School class after the Children's Message.

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds-Kindergarten (13/14 School Year) Room 3

1st & 2nd Grades Room 16

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-5th Grade (13/14 School Year) Room 3, dismissed to the multi-age Sunday School class after the Children's Message.

Please plan ahead and prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament of Communion on the first Sunday of the month. It is a prayerful time for giving thanks and confessing our sins, renewing our commitment to God, and hearing the Word proclaimed. 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 this process, please contact elder Jackie Koski (jackieandjerry@verizon.net), Chair of the Worship Team.

9:30 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY—Rooms 13 & 15

We are studying the book of John. We invite you to join us as we finish out this book. Class starts at 9:45 but come early for coffee and cookies and a time to chat with fellow classmates.

TCI (Today's Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11

The TCI Class discusses current topics and issues. Classes are led by a group of rotating teachers and are filled with great discussion. We invite you to join us. The class meets at 9:30 in Rooms 9 & 11.

11:00 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EXPERIENCING GOD – Rooms 13 & 15

If you are interested in our class, stop by! Our studies change. Questions? Contact our leader, Vicki Krueger.

Children's Ministry

Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry

King's Kids

This is the last month for King's Kids. End of the year party on April 30th from 4:30-6pm. (Choir from 4:30-5:00 & Party from 5:00-6:00)

VBS "Workshop of Wonders"

Registration is now open.
The Director Team: Justine Ruisz & Marcy Kemerer

The important dates for your calendar:

Sunday, June 1, 12-2: All-Staff luncheon & Meeting
Saturday, June 21, 9-12: Room decoration & set-up
Mon-Fri, June 23-27, 8:30-12:30 VBS (Friday until 1:30 for clean up; lunch provided)
Thurs, June 26, 6-8pm VBS Closing Program

VBS Donations

Items to be collected:
Fruit and soup cans- emptied, cleaned and wrappers off.
Tuna cans – emptied, cleaned and wrappers off.
Duct Tape – decorative and colorful
Old hardware- nuts, wing nuts, electrical wire (multicolored), metal shower rings and wire nuts.

Donated items can be placed in the collection box by the robot in front of the Noah's Ark table.

More Donation lists still to come!

Spring Bash at Cedarkirk

We had a blast a Spring Bash. The Bible lesson was on the commandment to love one another, and what traits make a good friend. The highlight was zip lining over the river and the rock wall...oh and the food! Thank you for your prayers. We look forward to doing it again next year!

**If you have any questions or would like to help with Sunday School, King's Kids, or VBS, please contact Justine Ruisz at Childrensministry@northwoodpc.org, or call 796-8090.*

Summer Music Camp for Rising 3rd-Rising 6th Graders

Reserve your spot for Summer Music Camp! It takes place the week before school resumes, August 11-15, 9-12:00. The cost is \$25 for the entire week! We learn a Christian Musical and perform it, play music games, have snack and fellowship. There will be auditions for parts as we get closer and the cast is limited to 25 children, so sign up now by emailing Stephanie Carson.

VBS Donation List

This year we're spending a week at the Workshop of Wonders to answer important questions kids have about Jesus. Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a total church ministry, and we still have several needs. Please read over the list and pray about how God would have you help!

Paper Goods:

1500 Paper/styro plates
2000 4oz paper cups
250 8 oz plastic cups
1000 plastic spoons
2000 paper napkins
10 rolls paper towels
250 12 oz plastic cups
200 wooden craft (Popsicle type) sticks
200 4" wooden skewers

Non-Perishable Needs:

12 cases (24 each) bottled water
8 2 liter bottles mixed diet soda
8 2 liter bottles mixed soda
6 large bags mixed flavors of Potato Chips
6 large bags mixed flavors corn chips/ Cheetos
75 individually wrapped cookies
75 individual package potato/corn chips
8 Gallon size boxes of Goldfish crackers
2 large bottles Ranch Dressing

Crafty snack needs:

5 #10 size cans vanilla pudding (avail @ GFS on Gulf to Bay Blvd)
20 pkg Oreo type chocolate cookies
200 Gummy Worms (avail in bulk candy case @Publix)
10 lg bottles of sprinkles, mixed colors
10 boxes Teddy Graham Crackers, mixed flavors
5 large boxes Cherrios
5 large containers Raisins
10 pkgs Oyster crackers
20 pkgs Lg Marshmallows
5 pkgs mini marshmallows- white
2 lg bags pretzel sticks
2 lg bags mini chocolate chips
10 jars marshmallow cream
10 pkgs fruit roll up snack
10 lg boxes of Rice Krispies
10 cans of mixed colors frosting (no chocolate please)

Perishable goods:

5-7 packages of cubed cheddar cheese
2 lg bags baby carrots
Fresh fruit daily, watermelon, cantaloupes, honeydew melon, strawberries, grapes, etc.
Monetary donations (or gift cards @ Aldi or Publix) for fresh fruit used daily. Please put in envelope and designate for VBS, and place in collection plate.

**Please check the bulletin and Monitor for updated lists.*

Get Involved!



Caring for Our Church Family

News from the Facility Manager

A Blessed Easter to all my Northwood family!

Lots of great things have happened this month and I'd like to highlight some of them.

To start, our 2002 Church Van went in for service. I have no idea what has been done to it up to this point, so a long comprehensive list was put together. With summer coming REAL SOON, van usage will increase and I wanted everyone who drives and rides in it to feel confident. When I picked it up I was told that the van is in #1, tip-top shape and nothing could be found wrong. Good job to those before me for maintaining it so well!

Next, as many of you know, one of the trees in our main playground finally died. This tree was needed to meet the shade requirements for pre-school licensing. So during Spring Break we had the dead tree removed and a new 24'+ tall Live Oak was installed to meet those shade requirements.

The excess dirt from the tree project was hauled over behind the gym and youth room because this area is low and holds water when it rains. It will be graded out and sodded.

As I am writing this, our 2006 Church Bus was taken in for service and I'm trusting that I'll receive the same great news as our church van.

Lastly, I just want to draw your attention to the wonderful job Bill Sutton and his "Friday Crew" have done to the Butterfly Garden on the west end of the office building. Thank you all so much for what you do!

At your service,

Jeff Mossolle

Presbyterian Women

Everyone is invited to the PW Installation Service, Covered Dish Luncheon, and Annual Birthday Party on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, starting at 11:30 am in the Sanctuary. Luncheon follows the ceremony. Bring a dish to share. Beverages and Birthday cake are provided! Questions? Contact Ellen Stoup, 415-6585.

Blood Drive, May 4, 2014

Mark your calendars for the next blood drive. Donate blood and save lives! And remember, May the Fourth be with you!

Church Website

The staff would like to remind you to continually check back to the church website for information on upcoming events! The website is constantly changing and updating! Have something you'd like to put on the website? Contact Katie: Katie@northwoodpc.org.

Recycling

The proceeds from paper recycling via the blue dumpster at the church are still used to fund college scholarships. We welcome your newspapers for this worthwhile project!

GOD'S TOOL BOX

God's Tool Box is willing to assist you with minor household repairs or errands. If you are in need of a helping hand, the ministry of God's Tool Box would like to help. Contact Sue Miskiewicz to request some assistance.

We're Still Collecting Pull Tabs

Presbyterian Women are collecting aluminum pull tabs/pop tops for the Shriners. Please carefully pull tabs from empty cans and place only tabs in the labeled basket in the collection center in the South narthex. The profit from recycling is used to purchase hospital equipment. For questions contact Loisanne Bilka.

Prayer Ministry

Ken Andreassen; Burt & Dottie Benziger; Larry Cornillaud; Kimberly Corrello; Doris Croasmun; Jean Dayes; Dorothy Dykstra; Shirley Gleason; Hugh Gott; Rees Heycock; Lou Hortobagyi; Kelly Jordan; Jane Kaempfer; Bea Kimball; Diane Luke; Mildred Martin; Robin MacLennan; Annie McElveen; Curtis McLeod; Helen Meier; Norman Phillips; Marian & Walter Rather; Barbara Smith; David Smith; Charline Snow; Gene Snyder; Lucille Talbot.

Please keep the following who are serving in the military in your prayers. Addresses have been included should you wish to send cards of support.

Capt. Daniel Doverspike 2044 Pratt Court Evanston, Illinois 60201-3116	AB Cernansky, Benjamin A. 320 TRS/FLT 2471 Dorm A4 1320 Truemper St. Unit 364028 Lackland AFB, TX 78236
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Our prayers and sympathy go out to:

- Mark & Michelle Voytko and family on the death of Michelle's mother on March 19, 2014 in Virginia.
- Earle & Jessie Lusk and family on the death of Jessie's mother, Juanita Carter Randolph, on March 29, 2014 in Clearwater, FL.
- The family of Bert McCormick on the news of his death on March 28, 2014 in Clearwater.
- Diane Musto and family on the death of Diane's sister, Doris Peterson, on April 1, 2014 in Clearwater.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of:
Alice Wilson

Given by:
Norma Rodewald
Larry & Pam Dierks
Joe & Mary Ellen Ziegler

Edna Bechtold

Bonnie Kissling

VITALS

Weather: Sunny
Sunday, April 7, 2014
 (8:15) 139
 (9:30) 134
 (11:00) 140
 Total: 413

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Beth-El Farmworker Ministry

Dear Northwood,

Thank you for your donation of \$275.00. We are only able to sustain our ministry through donations such as yours! As we begin preparation and registration for Summer Camp at Cedarkirk, please prayerfully consider being able to scholarship a child to attend. Each child is fully scholarshiped and we hope to be able to scholarship forty or so from our local community. Total cost per child is an average of \$450 for the week. Thanks once again for your donation. Blessings,
Dave Moore
Executive Director

HEP

Dear Northwood,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors, we gratefully acknowledge your gift of \$250.00. Your contribution makes it possible for us to "help people, help themselves". Thank you for your continued support of our Mission. Your generosity will help provide shelter for the 400 plus people we serve daily, as well as the supportive services they receive so that they can ultimately return to independent living. Sincerely,
Terrance McAbee
President & CEO

Isaiah's Inn, Inc.

Dear Northwood,
Thank you for your generous donation of \$250.00. During March we have been housing 37 families each night. This means we are renting an apartment, duplex, condominium or single family residence. Your support is greatly needed and greatly appreciated. Very truly yours,
Robert E. Crown
President



T.C.I. in Mission

On Sunday, March 16, 2014 the T.C.I. Sunday School Class had our annual "Christmas Party" held this year with a St. Patrick's Day theme. We shared a covered-dish luncheon with family and friends. We brought canned goods to replenish our Church's Food Pantry.