



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

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**Sent with Prayer to...**

**Director of Communications Transition**

Dear Northwood Family,

As most of you know, my husband David and I welcomed our baby girl in November. I am so thankful for everyone's love and support during this joyous time for my family. Unfortunately, I can no longer continue as the Director of Communications. I am excited and saddened as I embark on this new adventure. I look forward to raising our baby girl and all the excitement that comes with it, but I will miss the daily interaction with all of the staff, volunteers and members. I have been Blessed by these relationships over the past few years and thank God for all of you. My family asks for your prayers as we seek God's direction and provision as we strive to raise a woman of God.

Tracy Donovan

Northwood Family,

I am excited to announce that I have accepted the position of Director of Communications here at Northwood! I look forward to this new transition from the preschool to the front office and I look forward to working with the staff and getting to know more names and faces around our church!

Emily Cantin

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

*Northwood Presbyterian Church*



**January 15, 2018**  
 Volume 28, No. 1

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

Dear Church Family and Friends,

There are a good number of important events to place at Northwood during the month of February that you do not want to miss! Several of them are highlighted by articles in this edition of our newsletter. Allow me to summarize them here!

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at Noon. The business to be conducted is listed inside. There will be no luncheon this year following the annual meeting as in years past, as the luncheon will be held instead on Sunday, February 18, to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Northwood Presbyterian Church.

On Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> will be Scout Sunday and the pancake breakfast they annually host for all of us. This is the first year in which we will celebrate our scout programs on the second Sunday of the month instead of the first Sunday. It is a great tradition to have all our scouts and their parents in worship that day and get the chance to visit with them at breakfast.

Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> is our Ash Wednesday worship service at 6:45. It will also be the first Wednesday dinner of our Wednesday And You, (WAY) dinners which always begin at 6:00 p.m. The dinner dates are February 14, 21, 28 and March 7, 14, & 21. Menus of the meals and the name of the study will be provided in early February.

I hope you will plan to attend worship on Sunday, February 18 as we celebrate 40 years as a congregation, followed by a special covered dish luncheon. We will have our annual Kirkin' o' the Tartan worship service with a special pipe band and tartan procession at all three worship services that day. You can read more specifics about it in the article provided inside.

Finally, we recall 40 years ago on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 1978 just over 100 people gathered at the service of organization for Northwood Presbyterian Church. Their response to God's call to start a church was to seek God's vision and guidance. God has indeed abundantly blessed this church since it was organized. Today, 40 years later, Northwood has grown to approximately 1,000 members who are a part of a thriving church family of all ages. You will be able to read about the many thriving ministries and the wonderful record of giving in this year's Annual Report which will be provided at the Annual Meeting. We have some great news to share during the meeting about the level of generosity of our members to date. To God be the Glory!

I hope you will seek to participate in all activities planned for the coming month and always remember to seek to invite a friend!

Your pastor and friend,  
 Chris Curvin

# At-A-Glance

January 15, 2018

This Month at  
Northwood

Friday, January 19– Monday, January 22:  
Cedarkirk Women's Retreat

Sunday, January 21:  
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service  
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, January 28:  
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

Sunday, February 4:  
Scout Sunday  
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service  
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, February 7:  
Wonderful Wednesday Mardi Gras Dinner  
6:00- 6:40 P.M. Meal

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

Wednesday, February 14: Ash Wednesday  
Wonderful Wednesday Dinner & Service  
6:00- 6:40 P.M. Meal  
6:45-7:15 P.M. Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, February 18:  
Kirkin' o' the Tartan  
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service  
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, February 21:  
Wonderful Wednesday Dinner & Series  
6:00- 6:40 P.M. Meal  
6:41-7:15 P.M. Study

Sunday, February 25:  
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service  
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service  
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Wednesday, February 28:  
Wonderful Wednesday Dinner & Series  
6:00- 6:40 P.M. Meal  
6:41-7:15 P.M. Study

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## The Window

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Edited by Emily Cantin

### Submissions:

If you have information that you would like to be considered for the newsletter, e-mail [communications@northwoodpc.org](mailto: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](mailto:communications@northwoodpc.org).



### 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

### Memorial Gifts

#### In Memory of:

Carmele Andrews

#### In Honor of:

Joyce Curvin

Amy Guthrie

Karen, Tim & Ripley Dickson

Bill & Charlotte Douglas

T.C.I. Class & NPC

Peter & Susan Gajentan

#### Given by:

Janice Reese

#### Given by:

Jane Urban

Lorrie Janusik

Lorrie Janusik

Lorrie Janusik

Jane Urban

Gail Rothrock

### We extend our prayers and Christian sympathies to:

- Jill and David Manning on news of the death of David's mother, Grace Manning, on November 22.
- Dennis Rasmussen and family on news of the death of Dennis's mother, Ethel Rasmussen, on December 18.
- Candy Spoenlein and family on news of the death of Candy's father, Ralph Kievit, on November 21.
- Nancy Baker and family on news of the death of Nancy's mother, Shirley Carlton, on December 22.
- Anna Colon and family on news of the death of Anna's sister, Laura Colon-Medina, on December 28.
- Greg Hatch and family on news of the death of Greg's mother, Dorothy Fontaine, on January 12.

### Congratulations!

Kevin & Laura O'Leary on the birth of their daughter, Shannon Noelle O'Leary, born December 27, 2017, weighing 8lbs and 8oz.

### The Ren Crew - Fun! Friends! Friday!

The Ren Crew 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday Fellowship is a group of adventuresome, young at heart 50+ adults that delight in sharing fun with friends, old and new. We gather at the church from 10:30 to 11:30 for programs and conversations that are entertaining, educational and inspiring. Following the presentation, the group enjoys lunch at a different restaurant each month.

For the spring of 2018, the Ren Crew programs continue to open "different windows to the world" as Northwood members share their fascinating travel experiences in the U.S. and from around the world.

**February 9** - Eleanor Cicerchi: ðJourney among Hindus in Western India and the Followers of the Dalai Lama in Dharamshalaö

**March 16** - David Lawrence: ðWorld Wanders and Wondersö

**April 13** - Northwood Members: ðCeltic Encore: Northwood Members with composer Joseph Martin in Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Irelandö

**May 11** - Heather Villafranca: ðEastern Europe Experiencesö

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](mailto:paul@northwoodpc.org) or (727) 796-8090.

# Around Northwood

## Annual Congregational Meeting January 28th at Noon

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 28th. It's the Annual Congregational Meeting of Northwood Presbyterian Church. The Meeting will begin as soon as the 11 AM service concludes at Noon. The purpose of the meeting will be to receive written reports from the Session, the Deacons and their Ministry Teams and vote on any changes to the Terms of Call for our pastors. We will also be electing new officers, as the Officer Nominating Committee brings its nominations. There will be no luncheon following this year's meeting as the church-wide luncheon will be held on Sunday, February 18, as we celebrate Northwood's 40th Anniversary!

## WAY Dinners

Mark your calendars! WAY Dinners are scheduled for February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, & 21. Watch the bulletin for menu and description of the series.



**SCOUT  
SUNDAY**

## Scout Sunday

Northwood Celebrates Scouting Programs in our Community! On February 11, Northwood invites all scouts, leaders and family members to all 3 worship services for Scout Sunday. This church hosts close to 150 scouts and their families on this campus each week, as a part of Northwood's commitment to ministering to the youth of our community. On this special Sunday, those involved in Scouting programs within Northwood and our community will assist and lead parts of each worship service. All Scouts are encouraged to come in full uniform. Plan to be a part of this time on Sunday, February 11th, as we highlight the impact of scouting in our community.

Northwood's own Boy Scout Troop 413 will be offering a Pancake Breakfast on this Sunday after all 3 services. Donations to the Troop are welcome. Make plans now to come hungry for warm pancakes, eggs and sausage!

# Kirkin' o' the Tartan

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of Northwood Presbyterian Church  
Sunday, February 18, 2018

Three exceptional worship services of celebration  
8:15, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Featuring Dunedin High School Pipers and Drummers  
There will be music for the pipe and drum along with hymns and anthems of our Scottish heritage.

If you would like the honor of carrying a tartan in procession at one of the services, contact Justine Ruisz at the church office (727)796-8090 or email [childrensministry@northwoodpc.org](mailto:childrensministry@northwoodpc.org)

In 1745, Scottish clansmen were forbidden by the British Crown to wear the tartans, and to play the bagpipes, and to acknowledge in any way their traditional clans. This prompted the stubborn Scots to secretly carry with them a piece of their tartans in their pockets as they went to church (kirk). On an appointed Sunday, the minister would slip into the service a blessing, or "kirkin" for the tartans and clans which the tartans represented.

Our Kirkin' will be a celebration of the Scottish reformers as well as all those who have gone before us in the faith.

"Look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting."

JOHN 4:35, NRSV

## News From the Mission Field

### **Thornwell**

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,  
The ministry of Thornwell is thriving thanks to people like you! Your thoughts, prayers, gifts and kind words keep us energized to help more and more children and families in need. Because of you, we more than double the number of children and families we served! Last year, YOU helped!

- Provide 137 children in need with safe and loving homes
- Give 1,264 children and families community-based family support
- Education 210 children in Thornwell's 4-year-old Kindergarten
- Heal 122 children through counseling and therapy
- Support 163 children in their learning through Thornwell's Learning Center
- Start a new program to recruit and support foster parents
- Prepare 5 Teens and Young Adults for life after Thornwell in the Independent Living Program

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, lives are being changed every day because of your generosity!

For All God's Children,  
The Rev. Elliot M. Smith, President

### **Beth El**

Dear Northwood,  
Thank you for your donation of \$900. We simply could not assist the local farmworker community without wonderful supporters like you!

Blessings,  
Kathleen Dain, Executive Director

### **Shriner's Hospital**

Dear Northwood,  
We have received your kind contribution of 6lbs of can tabs. Please accept our sincere gratitude for your gift. Your concern for the hospital and the many children we serve is appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Fleury Yelvington, Administrator

### **The Outreach Foundation**

Dear Northwood,  
From the Outreach Foundation and our global partners, thank you for your recent gift of \$250.  
Grace and peace,  
Rob Weingartner, Executive Director

### **Clearwater Free Clinic**

Dear Northwood,  
I want to thank you for your recent gift of \$250 supporting our mission. Your donation will make a positive impact on the lives of the low-income, uninsured families the Clinic is dedicated to serve.  
Yours in Health,  
Jeannie Shapiro, Executive Director

### **Thornwell**

Dear PW & Northwood,  
Your gift of \$60 provides food, warmth, and care for children who have never had such food, warmth and care in their lives.  
With Gratitude for All You Do,  
Sarah Gray, VP for Mission Advancement

### **Habitat for Humanity**

Dear Northwood,  
Thank you for your recent generous gift of \$640. Your investment helps families in our community achieve what they thought was just a dream.  
Let's build!  
Mike Sutton, CEO

### **HEP**

Dear Northwood,  
We gratefully acknowledge your generous donation of the Food donation collected by the VBS camp. You are helping hundreds of families and individuals in our community.  
Sincerely,  
Ashley Lowery, President & CEO

# Christian Education

Bailey Shields, Christian Education Team Chair

## Women's Ministry



### Bible Study

Fresh Brewed Bible Study  
A Women of Wisdom - Proverbs  
by Dee Brestin  
February 2, 2018, 10:30am, Rm 5  
Valentine Cupcake Tea - pot luck

**Questions?**  
Contact Patty Martin  
(813) 855-0851 or  
[bill.martin2@verizon.net](mailto:bill.martin2@verizon.net)

### Think On These Things

Think on These Things is an intelligent, imaginative, hospitable reading group led by Pastor Paul which meets the third Monday of the month (September ó May) from noon to 1:15 in rooms 13 and 15. The theme for the group is "Engaging books a thoughtful Christian ought to read." For the month of February, we will meet on the 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss a Christian classic, Orthodoxy by G. K. Chesterton. Chesterton has been called "the prince of paradox" and is widely considered one of the greatest thinkers and writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. People are welcome to bring a lunch or snacks. For more information, contact Pastor Paul Means at 727-796-8090 or [paul@northwoodpc.org](mailto:paul@northwoodpc.org)

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### 8:15 AM Children's Christian Education

**3 Yr. Olds-2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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 will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 4.

### 11:00 AM Children's Christian Education

**3 Yr. Olds-2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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 9:30 AM service will meet in the sanctuary to worship together for the first 30 minutes, then move to the youth room for their lesson.

## Adult Ministry

### TCI Class

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

### Experiencing God Class

Sundays at 11:00 AM, Room 15



# CITYLIGHT

### Upcoming Schedule:

- Sunday, Jan. 14th (9:30am) ó Confirmation Information Meeting
- Sunday, Jan. 14th (9:30am) ó Worship and Sunday School
- Sunday, Jan. 14th (5-6:30pm) ó Youth Group
- Wednesday, Jan. 17th (6:30-7:30pm) ó H.S. Bible Study
- Friday, Jan. 19th (7-10pm) ó Game Night
- Sunday, Jan. 21st (9:30am) ó Worship and Sunday School
- Sunday, Jan. 21st (9:30-11am) ó Confirmation Class #1
- Sunday, Jan. 21st (5-6:30pm) ó Youth Group
- Wednesday, Jan. 24th (6:30-7:30pm) ó H.S. Bible Study
- Friday, Jan. 26th (7-10pm) ó Game Night
- Friday, Jan. 27th (TBD) ó Young Adults Movie Night
- Sunday, Jan. 28th (9:30am) ó Worship and Sunday School
- Sunday, Jan. 28th (9:30-11am) ó Confirmation Class #2
- Sunday, Jan. 28th ó Youth Group
- Wednesday, Jan. 31st (6:30-7:30pm) ó H.S. Bible Study
- Friday, Feb. 2nd (5:30-6:30pm) ó M.S. Bible Study
- Friday, Feb. 2nd (7-10pm) ó Game Night
- Sunday, Feb. 4th ó **NO** Sunday School
- Sunday, Feb. 4th (9:30-11am) ó Confirmation Class #3
- Sunday, Feb. 4th (5-6:30pm) ó Youth Group
- Sunday, Feb. 6th (7-8pm) ó Young Adults Menchi's Meetup
- Wednesday, Feb. 7th (6:30-7:30pm) ó H.S. Bible Study
- Friday, Feb. 9th (7-10pm) ó Game Night
- Sunday, Feb. 11th (9:30am) ó Worship and Sunday School
- Sunday, Feb. 11th (9:30-11am) ó Confirmation Class #4
- Sunday, Feb. 11th (5-6:30pm) ó Youth Group
- Wednesday, Feb. 14th (6:30-7:30pm) ó H.S. Bible Study & Valentine Exchange
- Friday, Feb. 16th (7-10pm) ó Game Night
- Saturday, Feb. 17th (noon-4pm) ó Random Acts of Kindness
- Sunday, Feb. 18th (9:30am) ó Worship and Sunday School

### Upcoming Events:

- Confirmation Information Meeting on Jan. 14th (youth & parents)
- Young Adults Movie Night on Jan. 27th (young adults ages 18-25)
- Young Adults Meetup at Menchi's for Fro-yo on Feb. 6th (young adults ages 18-25)
- Valentine Exchange on Feb. 14th (high school)
- Random Acts of Kindness event on Feb. 17th (youth)
- Youth Parent Meeting on Feb. 25th (youth and parents)

### Volunteers Needed:

- Middle School Bible Studies on first Fridays from 5:30-6:30pm (adult volunteers only)
- Game nights on Fridays in Jan. from 7-10pm (adult volunteers only)
- Random Acts of Kindness event on Feb. 17th (adult volunteers only)

Vanessa Celotto, Director of Youth & Family Ministries  
[youthdirector@northwoodpc.org](mailto:youthdirector@northwoodpc.org)

## Gratitude Notes

The Mission & Outreach team would like to thank the congregation for the large number of items donated to Beth El and the Adopt-A-Family Program. The migrant workers of Beth El are grateful for the canned food, diapers, clothing and other items so lovingly donated by Northwood congregation through the Angel Tree program.

### Special thank you to:

Anastacia Colon, Mary Duffy, Polly Hamilton and Sally Uhler - Your Sunday Bulletin Crew. They help clean the pews, make sure you have envelopes, pencils, Bibles, Hymnals and also stuff your Sunday Bulletins. Fun group meets every Thursday at 12:30pm. Happy New Year!  
~Sally Uhler

### Online Giving

If you are interested in setting up online giving, visit the "Giving" link to the secure portal at [www.northwoodpc.org](http://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.