



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

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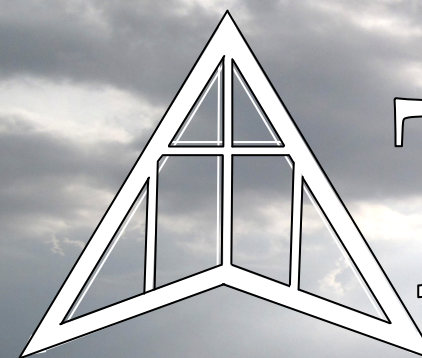
Sent with Prayer to...

Rally Day 2015 Calling All Ministries

The Christian Education Committee is excited to announce an expanded and enhanced Rally Day to be held on Sunday, September 13, 2015. The theme will be "Here We Grow Again" and in addition to showcasing Northwood's Sunday school sessions for 2015-2016, we are inviting all of the church's ministry teams and organizations to participate and reap the twin benefits of representing their mission and recruiting new members. Below are some preliminary details to share with your group.

- Rally Day hours will be 9:30 am – 12:00 noon
- Each group will have a table for materials, displays, sign-up sheets, etc.
- Groups such as Presbyterian Women might want to have tables for each circle –the more the merrier!
- Think outside the box – the Kitchen Krew for example, can have the entire kitchen as their "table" and offer coffee and a continental breakfast. (We do not plan to offer a luncheon.) Similarly, the Library Committee's "table" can be the libraries!
- We will plan a special event for the children but we will also design a game that will encourage them (and everyone else!) to visit every group.

September is six months away but we all know how fast the time will fly. Please let us know by May 15 if Office Angels, the Bulletin Crew and Newsletter Crew will or will not join this new church-wide Rally Day by contacting Bailey Shields at 813-514-5772 (cell) or at bshields4@tampabay.rr.com. Thank you!



The Window

Northwood Presbyterian Church

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

April 21, 2015
Volume 25, No. 4

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

Building Renovation Pledge To Date

Campaign Goal: \$80,000.00
Pledged to Date: \$63,393.00
Pledges Received: \$43,177.00
Non-Pledged Gifts Received: \$14,249.53
Total Gifts to Building Renovation: \$57,426.53
Unpaid Pledge Balance: \$20,216.00

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 for 2015 will be \$25.00 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. do so just write "per capita" on the memo line of your check or mark an envelope accordingly. Thank you for your gift.

Pastor Paul's Sabbatical Celebrating God in the Beauty, Majesty and Wildness of God's Creation

It seems amazing that it has already been six years since Pam, Colin, Christopher and I moved to Clearwater. It is with joy that I give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve this community of faith as Associate Pastor of Congregational Care and Mission.

As I celebrate my six years here with you, I am deeply grateful to this church family for the opportunity to have a one-month sabbatical in July of this year. This will be a time of personal renewal to reflect on the beauty, truth and goodness of God. This sabbatical will also allow me time to explore and work on a theme that has continually nourished my faith and renewed my spirit - Celebrating God in the Beauty, Majesty and Wildness of God's Creation.

My prayer is that this sabbatical will not only be a blessing to me, but will also be a blessing and provide a benefit for the congregation of Northwood. Toward that end, I will be using Scripture, spiritual reflections and photography to develop a 4-week series and an accompanying 31-day devotional based on the theme mentioned above. The series will be presented to the congregation during the Fall W.A.Y. Dinners.

I have been asked where I am planning to go on my time away, so I thought it might be interesting to share my itinerary for this Sabbatical-Adventure. I will be spending time in Glacier National Park and then cross over into Canada to spend time in Banff, Yoho National Park and Jasper National Park in the Canadian Rockies. Then from Jasper National Park, I will cross back over into the United States and travel to Washington State and spend time in Olympic National Park, Mount St. Helens and Mount Rainier. The last week of July will be spent working on the 4-week series and the daily devotional.

Please know that I greatly value your prayers as I plan and prepare for this wonderful gift to explore God's creation and to experience God's presence in what I am sure will be surprising, grace-filled ways.

Thank you, again, for your kindness and generosity!

In Christ's love and fellow sojourner in the faith,
Pastor Paul
Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Mission

At A Glance

April 21, 2015

This Month at Northwood

Sunday, April 26:

Gifts of Women Sunday

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

Sunday, May 3:

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

Sunday, May 10: Happy Mother's Day!

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

Sunday, May 17:

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

Sunday, May 24:

Day of Pentecost

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

Monday, May 25:

Memorial Day, Office Closed

Sunday, May 31:

Trinity Sunday

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

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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. Dr. E. Chris Curvin

Christian Marriage at Northwood Presbyterian Church

(As published in the 3-27-15 Monitor)

Dear Church Members and Friends of Northwood,

Since the early days of those seeking to follow Jesus as recorded in the New Testament, individual people of faith, for one reason or another, have had differences of opinion in specific matters of life and faith. When we do hold to different positions, such as on the definition of Christian marriage, it is time once again to remember that the Sacraments of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ unite us. We are one in Baptism and at the Lord's Table; so as a congregation we affirm together that, "We are one in Jesus Christ!"

What does the new marriage amendment by the denomination now mean for us as a local church?

This past month your Church's Session, the local governing body of each congregation in our denomination, by unanimous consent agreed to continue our current position and policy on Christian marriage at Northwood (see this position statement at the end of my letter).

Patrice Hatley, Coach and Coordinator of Tampa Bay Presbytery, the geographical district of churches to which we belong, has written the following to congregations in our presbytery in response to the new denominational amendment:

This is no ordinary time for us as a church seeking God's perfect wisdom about many things. May we resist distraction from our charge to make new and mature disciples for Jesus Christ. This is the great commission and we should push on because that IS THE PRIZE, friends. I believe the Holy Spirit is not done with us yet. Be committed to the church for the long haul, and believe that there is more truth than any of us possess. I encourage you to get out your Bibles right now and read the Apostle's letter to the Ephesians where, in chapter 4, he admonished the believers to 'make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.'

Some in our congregations are disappointed in the passage of the amendment and others are happy with it. Others have no strong opinion at all. There has not been and will not be a requirement to perform wedding ceremonies for couples which the minister discerns are not appropriate. There is now no prohibition to perform same gender marriage and there is no requirement to perform them, either. The amendment does nothing to change the right of a teaching elder to decline to perform a marriage which the teaching elder believes not to be blessed by God. Likewise, the session retains full authority as to what worship services it will approve to be held in the church's facilities.

Patrice's letter is a good letter and I wanted to share it with you. Please know I'm open to having conversation with anyone on this issue or others.

E. Chris Curvin, Senior Pastor

Policy on Christian Marriage at Northwood Presbyterian Church

Marriage is a gift God has given to all humankind for the well-being of the entire human family. Marriage is a civil contract between a woman and a man. Christian marriage is a covenant through which a man and a woman are called to live out together before God their lives of discipleship. In a service of Christian marriage a lifelong commitment is made by a woman and a man to each other, publically witnessed and acknowledged by the community of faith.

Christian marriage should be celebrated in the place where the community gathers for worship. As a service of Christian worship, the marriage service is under the direction of the Minister(s) of Word and Sacrament at Northwood and the supervision of the Session.

Christian Education

Bailey Shields, Christian Education Team Chair

Undefeated!

Vacation Bible School Sports Camp

We are excited to be preparing for the 2015 VBS Sports Camp to be held June 15-19 from 9 a.m. to Noon at Presbyterian Church of Palm Harbor. If you would like to help, please consider donating some of the needs listed below! Donated items can be placed in the collection box by the Noah's Ark table.

Non Perishable Items

600	Small Bottled Waters, 8-10 oz (24pk @ Aldi for \$2.49)
120	Chewy granola bars (no peanuts)
120	Popsicles
7	Gallon Boxes Goldfish crackers
120 cups	Trail mix (no peanuts)
120 cups	Popeorn
4	24 Quart cans Gatorade Mix (\$8.38 each at Wal-Mart)

Non-Food Items

10	Rolls of paper towels
8	Bags of Sand (to weigh down basketball hoops)
1	Basketball hoop & stand to borrow for the week

Perishables

We are in need of monetary donations for perishables to be purchased the week before VBS. These items include apples, bananas and cheese sticks. Please put donations in an envelope marked VBS and place it in the collection plate or safe.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

8:15 A.M. CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (2014/15 School Year), Room 3, join us in the multi-age Sunday School worship class after the Children's Message.

9:30 A.M. CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-Kindergarten (14/15 School Year) Room 3

1st & 2nd Grades Room 16

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 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 A.M. CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds - 5th grade (14/15 school year) join us as we bring the Bible to Action through games and activities in room 3 beginning at 11:00. Should your child like to attend worship up until the Children's message, they can join in on the fun in room 3 after the Children's Message or remain in worship with their parents.

Children Welcome to the Lord's Table

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 Jackie Koski (jackieandjerry@verizon.net), Chair of Worship Team. (Communion is normally celebrated on the first Sunday of each month).

Middle & High School Christian Education

Come join us for combined middle/high school Sunday school. We will be studying the "Elements" of our faith. Through new and exciting curriculum, we will learn how to grow in our walk with God.

9:30 AM Youth Room
11:00 AM Youth Room

9:30 A.M. ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY—Rooms 13 & 15: Join us as we study the character of Joseph! Class is led by Bob Meier and Jeanette Holloway.

TCI (Today's Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11: Led by a rotation of teachers, this class examines current issues and how it relates to our faith. Be part of the conversation while enjoying cookies and coffee.

11:00 A.M. ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EXPERIENCING GOD – Rooms 13 & 15: We are studying Nehemiah—a story that begins with his fellow Jews reporting that the walls and gates of Jerusalem were in terrible shape. God put it on his heart to rebuild the walls. Join our class to find out just how Nehemiah went about accomplishing this feat and how God's love and faithfulness works in our lives on a daily basis.

Youth & Young Adults

Troy Harris, Director of Youth & Young Adults ~ Cindy Huffman, Team Chair

Save the Date

Youth Mission Week: Monday, June 8 - Friday, June 12. Daily local mission work and fun with your friends from church.

Attention Graduating Seniors

Please submit your pictures and post graduation plans to Katie Pacana by April 30th. Pictures can be dropped off or e-mailed to Katie@Northwoodpc.org.

Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast, May 10th

This is to support the Youth Mission Efforts. We will need cooks, servers, and many helpers. Please plan on helping with our fundraiser.

Northwood Scholarship Application Time

NPC members who are high school seniors, college/vocational students or grad students are encouraged to pick up guidelines/applications from Katie Pacana in the church office now or go online to www.northwoodpc.org/forms. Applications must be received by June 1, 2015. Applicants need to be involved in the life of the church (either here or at college/Seminary). This scholarship can only be received twice. We give thanks to the Bakers, Gordons, Wrights and others whose generosity to Northwood was reflected in their last will and testament. Scholarship funds come from interest earned from the following: (1) The Fred and Kay Baker Scholarship Fund, (2) The Walter and Catherine Gordon Educational Endowment, (3) Clarence and Florence Wright Scholarship Fund, (4) Monies received from other sources.

Youth Highlights

Friday, April 24:

- Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, April 26:

- Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.

Friday, May 1:

- Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, May 3:

- Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.

Friday, May 8:

- Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, May 10: Mother's Day!

- Pancake Breakfast in the morning
- No Youth Group

Friday, May 15:

- Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, May 17:

- Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.

Friday, May 22:

- Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, May 24:

- Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.

Friday, May 29

- Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, May 31:

- End of the Year Youth Banquet 5-6:30 P.M.



Children's Ministry

Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry

NPC Children's Summer Music Camp

Who: Children rising into 3rd-6th grade

What: Summer Music Camp

When: August 17-21; M-F, 9-12:00; Performance Friday, 8/21, 6:30 PM

Where: NPC sanctuary

Cost: \$30

Cast: Limited to 20 children! Sign up soon to hold your spot!

Auditions: June. You will know your part and/or solo before camp begins.

Youth Help Needed: With snack, sound, lights, kid control, game help, poster board, etc.

Contact: Stephanie Carson; Stephanie@northwoodpc.org; 796-8090

VBS Sports Camp:

Registration is open!!! Please go to northwoodpc.org and sign up for Sports Camp. June 15-19 from 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Northwood is grateful that Presbyterian Church of Palm Harbor is going to host this amazing camp!

Summer Sunday School:

Can you believe that summer is upon us? The children's Sunday school is in need of summer teachers. We give our teachers a break during the summer months. If you can teach one Sunday during the summer months please contact Justine Ruisz.

Around Northwood

Caring for Our Church Family

Meals on Wheels

Did you know that Northwood provides the delivery of Meals on Wheels for one route five days a week. All of the recipients are very grateful and, as you may be the only person they see in a day, you are very important to them. We have between 6 and 8 people deliver any given day. We start our route, which runs from Palm Harbor to SR 580, at 10:30am and are done about noon. We have an opening in our schedule for the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday. If you think you might be interested, you can ride along for one of our deliveries! Please help. Contact: Nancy Johnson, 727-366-7705, njohnso1472@gmail.com.

Presbyterian Women

Everyone is invited to the PW Installation Service, Covered Dish Luncheon, and Annual Birthday Party on Tuesday, May 5, 2015, 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.

Membership Matters

We invite you to participate in the many opportunities for worship and service here. Our Discovering Northwood class is for newcomers as well as those of us who have been around awhile to simply learn more about us or to become a member of our church family.

The next Discovering Northwood class is **May 17 in room 4** of the Christian Education Building **from 10:45 am-12:00 pm**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the pastor, Rev. E. Chris Curvin (chriscurvin@northwoodpc.org), or Membership Coordinator, Katie Pacana (Katie@northwoodpc.org). Both Katie and Chris can be reached at 796-8090.

Bible Study Fellowship

This fall Harborside Christian Church will host both a men's and a women's Bible Study Fellowship class on Revelation. Men, join us Tuesday, April 21 at 7 pm in Room 225 for an information and registration night. Contact: Joseph Rocheleau 727-902-4328. Two welcome classes for registration for women will be Thursdays, April 23 and 30 at 9:30am in room 225. Contact: Marlene Moore 727-448-2815 or Mary Duffey 727-733-3672. Pre-registration is required for these studies which begin Monday, September 14 at 7pm for men and Thursdays, September 17 at 9:30am for women. There is no cost and all materials will be furnished. There is no children's program for either class.

NPC Library

The adult library is now featuring the entire 16 book collection of the Left Behind Series of novels. These best-selling books, written in the late 1990's and early 2000's, may be beneficial to read before attending the upcoming BSF study of the Book of Revelation. Written by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, the authors use fictional characters to portray their view of the Earth's last days as foretold in the Book of Revelation and other Bible prophecies. These novels portray the Rapture; the rise of the Antichrist; the Tribulation; Armageddon; and the Second Coming of Christ, among others. Readers can either start with the first book, Left Behind, or they can start with the first prequel, The Rising. Controversial? Perhaps. Thrilling and compelling? Definitely. **Check it out** for yourself!

PRAYER MINISTRY

Ken Andreassen; Burt & Dottie Benziger; Larry Cornillaud; Kimberly Corrello; Doris Croasmun; Shirley Gleason; Hugh Gott; Fred Inkles; Rees Heycock; Lou Hortobagyi; Kelly Jordan; Jane Kaempfer; Diane Luke; Lois Marsh; Mildred Martin; Robin MacLennan; Curtis McLeod; Helen Meier; Norman Phillips; Marian & Walter Rather; David Smith; Charline Snow; Gene Snyder; Lucille Talbot, Barbara Yontek.

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

Commissioning of Eric Gajentan

On Sunday, May 3, 2015, Eric Gajentan will be graduating from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering and a minor in Military Science. He will be commissioned Friday, May 1, 2015 as an Army 2nd Lieutenant. He is a SMP (Simultaneous Military Program) which means he is (and has been) in ROTC and the Florida Army National Guard. Upon commissioning he will transfer to a South Carolina Guard (Engineering) unit. He will serve in the Guard for at least 5 years. He will otherwise be a civilian contractor for the DOD in Charleston, SC.

Our Sympathies and Prayers go out to:

- The family of Jean Dayes who died Sunday, April 5, 2015.
- Betty Evans and family on the death of Betty's son, Robert Evans, on Sunday, April 12, 2015.

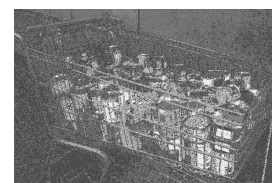
Thank You Notes

Thank you for thinking of me as I was Confirmed. I feel blessed to know that I have so many people who love and support me as I continue on my faith journey. ~Love, Drew Hatch

A warm thank you to my Northwood family for your visits, calls, cards, thoughts and prayers during my surgery and recovery. Your kindness provided such comfort to Patty and me. We are truly blessed to be a part of this loving and caring congregation. ~ Bill Martin

To my Northwood family, Thank you so much for the calls, cards, visits and prayers! We miss you very much! ~Jane Sutton

T.C.I. Sunday School



The T.C.I. Sunday School class collected food for the church pantry at their annual pot-luck luncheon in March. Thank you, T.C.I. class!

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Memory of:

Bob Moler

William Newman
Joseph Bachmeier
Ron Duffey

Given by:

Anonymous
Gloria Miller
Jennifer Moler Dominguez & Family
Hugh & Margaret Gott
Bill & Margaret Lewis
Larry & Elaine Cornillaud
Art & Jeanette Holloway
Elizabethtown Gas Co, PA
Erik & Eileen Chuss
Lorrie Janusik
Bill & Margaret Lewis
Larry & Elaine Cornillaud
Bill & Loisanne Bilka
Ray & JoAnne Spigarelli
Paul & Grace Duffey
Bill & Jane Sutton
Diane Musto
David & Suzanne Hamilton
Jane Urban
Nancy Turner
Mike & Linda O'Leary
John & Janet George
Marlene Bishop
Joe Flaherty & Family
Bill & Bunny Biner
Bill & Patty Martin
Jean Swintek
Art & Jeanette Holloway
Linda Ciokan
Linda Ciokan
Franklin & Karen Bishop
Barbara Englehart
Barbara Schlerf
Anonymous
Art & Jeanette Holloway
Jean's Family
Barbara Schlerf

Doris Lemon

Jean Dayes

PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL.

VITALS

Weather: Cloudy & Warm
Sunday, April 5, 2015

Easter Sunday	
(8:15)	189
(9:30)	342
(11:00)	234
Total:	765

THANKS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Beth-El

Dear Northwood Presbyterian,
Thank you for your donation of T-Shirts and knitted baby blankets. Your donation is quite important to those we serve! Blessings,
Dave Moore
Executive Director

Countryside Healthcare

Dear Northwood,
Thank you for your wonderful donation of the hand made items, and afghan, for our residents. Our residents will really love them. Thank you again! Sincerely,
Evelyn Frank
Activities Director

Duvall Home

Dear Friends,
It is with a grateful heart that I compose this letter of thanks to you for your generosity and support. Your recent donation of \$45.75 was received on 2/23/2015 and will be used towards our Annual Fund, which provides much more than the basic necessities of life for our 130 residents living with developmental disabilities. Gifts designated to this fund allow the greatest flexibility in meeting the ever-changing and often unanticipated and urgent needs of those we serve. Thank you, again. Best regards,
Steven C. DeVane, Chief Executive Officer

Habitat for Humanity

Dear Northwood,
Thank you for your recent gift of \$1,191.96. This investment helps families in our community achieve what they thought was just a dream! Thank you so much! God Bless!
Mike Sutton, Chief Executive Officer