

One Great Hour of Sharing, Easter Sunday

For more than 50 years through the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, the refugee and the stranger have found food and safe shelter, those stunned by the aftermath of disasters have found relief and help rebuilding, and communities seeking to take control of their future have found partners in development. This year 80% of the money received will be divided equally between local ministries RCS and Thornwell Building Families Program, and 20% will go to the Presbytery of Tampa Bay. The hundreds of millions given over the last half century have enabled a powerful witness to the love of the One who came that all might have life more abundantly. There are offering envelopes located in the holders in the pew.

HYMN NOTES:

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

This text by Charles Wesley was first published in 1739 under the title “Hymn for Easterday” in eleven four-line stanzas. For almost 100 years after this first appearance the text went into a great eclipse. In 1831 it reappeared in British Methodist hymnals and U.S. hymnals in 1849. Much of the interest since then has probably been the result of its pairing with the tune EASTER HYMN (which we sing today). The composer of the music has never been identified. The joyous ‘alleluias’ at the end of each line were added by some hymnal editor to make the words fit the tune. The tune also has a history from the 18th century of being named CHRISTMAS DAY and coupled with another of Wesley’s hymns “Hark, how all the welkin rings,” later altered to “Hark, the herald angels sing.” In our *Glory to God* hymnal, the famous Easter words are coupled with a different tune, so we have printed the text in the bulletin to avoid confusion.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO...

Sunday, April 16th: Jeanne Smith, Fred Schuler, Lars Greff
Monday, April 17th: Ibelise Luther
Tuesday, April 18th: Linda Howard, David Johnson
Wednesday, April 19th: Ruth Schmidt, Terry Curkan, Lex Long, Blake Harris
Thursday, April 20th: Anna Hyden, Ed Puschmann, Faith Garcia
Friday, April 21st: Agnes Blair
Saturday, April 22nd: Edwin Smith, Garry Justice

If you see someone whose birthday is listed and you haven't seen them in church recently, give them a call!

FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD TODAY

ACOLYTES:

(8:15) Jade Johnson
(11:00) Adam Booth

GREETERS:

(8:15) Joann Spigarelli, Jay Basinger
(11:00) Wally & Nancy Ericson

USHERS:

(8:15) Fred Heider, Earle Lusk, Bill & Margaret Lewis
(11:00) Ernie & Carol Kirkwood, Polly Brown & Jane Winne

VAN DRIVER: Ed Puschmann

OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed tomorrow, **Monday, April 17**. The office will re-open Tuesday, April 18, at 9:00 a.m.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God by:

*Terry & Peggy Steele
Our Mothers,
Maxine Steele & Zella Morris*



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

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 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 with Nancy & Don Stevens.

1st-2nd Grade, Room 2

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

3rd-5th Grades

There will be no Sunday School TODAY.

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 worship following the anthem.

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

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

9:30 AM TCI Sunday School Class (Today's Christian Issues)

TCI will be discussing what effect research reports about personal isolation. How can churches fill the gap that members may be experiencing as our population ages. NOTE: THE CLASS WILL MEET IN ROOMS 8 & 10 FOR TODAY ONLY.

11:00 AM Experiencing God Class

No class today or next Sunday, April 23. Class will resume on Sunday, April 30.

The Paschal Candle

Today on the chancel is a large candle that symbolizes both the pillar of fire that led Israel by night, and the risen Lord who stands among us at Easter. This large candle sits tall and it bears a light and witness to the risen Christ. The candle is called the paschal candle. "Pasch" comes from the Hebrew word "pesah," meaning deliverance or Passover-- thus connecting the Resurrection to the Exodus. As we did last year, the candle is first used on Easter and continues at each service through the Great Fifty Days—Easter through Pentecost. It is also appropriate to light it at initiation rites such as baptism, confirmation and ordinations as well as at funerals.

About our Children's Ministry:

Welcome to Northwood Presbyterian Church! Our mission is to join with parents to help kids develop a faith in Jesus Christ that lasts a lifetime! We invite you to take a look at our website, www.northwoodpc.org, for more information about what we offer and join us for some of our exciting upcoming events! If you have any questions, please contact Justine Ruisz, Director of Children's Ministry.

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

Children's Ministry

Easter Egg Hunt Thank You!

Our 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt was Egg-cellent! Thank you for the donation of goodies, egg fillers and prizes. Thank you to Susan Curry, Linda Ciokan, Sue Gavette, Marian Hill, Bob Meier, Laureen Meier, Nancy Stevens, Kay Scheuerman, Jane Winne and Gloria Whitfield for helping with the filling counting and hiding the eggs, and for counting and stuffing the goodie bags. I could not have done it without their help! We had 50 kids and 50 adults attend this wonderful family event and we look forward to doing it again next year!

Worship Preparation Class

This class is designed to help children feel more at home in the worship service. They will learn about the different parts of the worship service and their significance. This class is for children who are currently in 2nd grade or those who are 3rd-5th grade, that haven't been through the class yet. Please contact Justine Ruisz for more information. The class will be held on April 30th and May 7th at 10:30 A.M. in rooms 4 & 6. The children will be presented in service on May 14th.

Vacation Bible School– June 26-30

Registration is now open on our website. www.northwoodpc.org

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

Sympathy

We express our prayers and Christian sympathy to Pastor Paul Means and his entire family upon the news of the death of his mother, Ruth Means, in Tulsa, Oklahoma on April 6.

YOUTH EVENTS

- Sunday, April 16:** No Sunday School or Youth Group for Easter
Sunday, April 23: Youth Sunday, *Pierced* will be providing music along with Westminster Handbell Choir and the Youth Choir. There are many different parts of the service that we are still in need of youth volunteers.
Sunday, April 30: Youth Guide Training for VBS
10:30-12:00 for New Youth Guides
10:30-11:30 for Returning Guides
(Please sign up at www.northwoodpc.org/vbs)
Sunday, May 14: Mother's Day Bake Sale. We are accepting baked goods for sale on Friday evening, May 12, at 7:00 P.M. and Sunday morning, May 14. We also appreciate all the purchases made that day with the proceeds going to support our summer spiritual growth retreat.
Sunday, May 21: Last Sunday School until school starts again in August.

Volunteers are always needed for youth activities! Parents, please sign up for one of our exciting events or projects by emailing either Steve Cantin (scantin13@yahoo.com) or Andy Strelcheck (Strelcheckfamily@aol.com).

Youth Summer Trip: Life Rec Camp

*Second deposit of \$100 due Sunday, April 30

When: July 24th- July 28th

Where: Palm Beach Atlantic University

Cost: The cost is \$300. Reservations are being accepted, based on camp availability.

Questions? Please contact Marcy Kemerer or Stephanie Strelcheck:

Marcy Kemerer, 727-455-2583, marcykem07@gmail.com

Stephanie Strelcheck, 727-417-9532, strelcheckfamily@aol.com

Congratulations to our Confirmands!

Last weekend we welcomed our four Confirmands into Membership in the Presbyterian Church. These students, grades 7 and up, started classes on February 19 to learn about the History of the Church, Presbyterian Polity, Old Testament, New Testament, Worship and more. They also spent a fun weekend out at Cedarkirk and attended the February Session Meeting. On Saturday, April 8 they attended a Luncheon in their honor where they shared their faith statements. Palm Sunday we welcomed Hannah Fish, Lucas Johnston, and Emma Youngblood as brothers and sisters in Christ's Church! (Alyssa Tobiassen was not able to be present Sunday and will be introduced to the congregation at a later time.)

Around Northwood

Blood Drive

Mark your calendars! Our next blood drive is scheduled for Sunday, April 23.

Summer Music Camp

When: July 17-21
Time: 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Monday-Friday
What: We learn a musical and perform it, play music games and have snack.
Who: All children rising into 3rd through those rising into 6th.
Cost: \$35 for the week
Performance: Friday, July 21, 6:45 P.M.
How: Stephanie@northwoodpc.org or 796-8090
Auditions for parts to be announced! **SIGN UP NOW!!!**

Monday Volleyball

Come join us for volleyball on Monday evenings, 7:00-9:00 P.M. in the Family Life Center. All adults, young and older, are invited. If interested or have any questions call Joan Tobiassen, 727-519-3430.

Attention Graduating Seniors

Attention all graduates, please submit your graduation picture, a short write up of your accomplishments and plans for after graduation. This information can be dropped off in the office or e-mailed to Tracy Donovan at: communications@northwoodpc.org.

Northwood Scholarship Application

NPC members who are high school seniors, college/vocational students or grad students are encouraged to pick up guidelines/applications from Tracy Donovan, online, or in the church office now. Applications must be received by June 1, 2017. 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.

Learn about Being Presbyterian

What is a Presbyterian?

In the New Testament, "Presbuteros" means elder, and refers to the democratic custom of choosing leaders and advisors from among the members of the church.

Presbyterians are a group of Protestants whose church is founded on this concept of democratic rule under the Word of God. The Presbyterian denomination is a form of Christianity democratically organized to embrace the faith common to all Christians.

All that is required to be a Presbyterian is to...

- Confess the Christian faith
- Trust in Christ as our forgiving Savior
- Promise to follow Christ and Christ's example for living
- Commit oneself to attend church and to become involved in its work.

Presbyterians have two main sources for inspiration and guidance in their faith:

1. The Bible: The Bible is an inspired record of the revelation of God to all. Presbyterians have always believed that the Bible is the most authoritative source for faith and practice for all people. Presbyterians do not believe that the authors of the Bible were "pens of God" as the pre-Christian writers believed. Instead, they believe the authors were inspired by God to reveal God to all people.
2. Creeds & Confessions: These are statements of doctrine that express the beliefs of a church or congregation. They include:
 - The Apostles' Creed
 - The Nicene Creed
 - The Scots Confession, 1560
 - The Heidelberg Catechism
 - The Second Helvetic Confession
 - And others

Presbyterians recognize two Sacraments—as described in the Bible.

1. Baptism: This sacrament unites us with Jesus Christ and makes us members of God's family, the Church. For Presbyterians, baptism...
 - Is an initiation into the church community, as ordered by Christ
 - Is a public confession, not a private one—it's a statement of faith made in the presence of others
 - Does not guarantee access to heaven—un-baptized people are not denied salvation
 - Can be performed in another church—there is no need to be re-baptized in a Presbyterian Church.
2. Communion: This is also called the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion or the Eucharist. It's a time to renew faith and strengthen participants for the duties and privileges of Christian service. In communion, the bread and the wine represent the sacrificial body and blood of Christ and recall the last meal shared with the apostles. Together they symbolize the new covenant between God and all people.

To learn more about what it means to be a Presbyterian, and a member of Northwood, please join us for our Discovering Northwood New Member Class May 21st at 10:45 am in Room 4 of the Christian Education Building.

NORTHWOOD CHURCH STAFF
Ministers—All the members of the church

Chris Curvin-Pastor

Email: chriscurvin@northwoodpc.org

Paul Means-Associate Pastor for Congregational Care/Mission

Email: paul@northwoodpc.org

Stephanie Carson-Director of Music

Email: stephanie@northwoodpc.org

Tom Huffman-Organist & Associate Music Director

Email: hufftom@aol.com

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