

NORTHWOOD CHURCH STAFF
Ministers—All the members of the church

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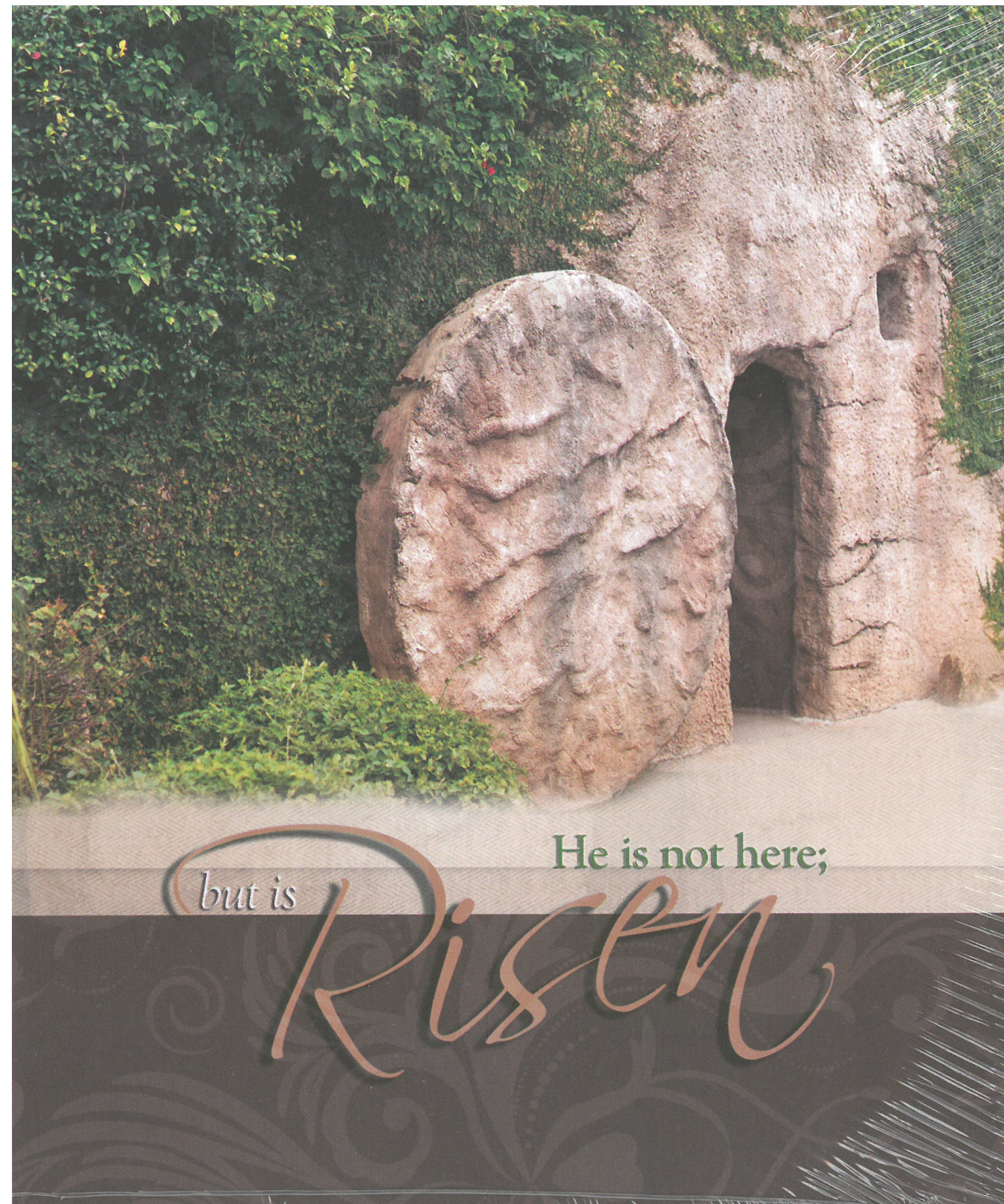
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Aimee McDermott-Nursery Director

Mark Johnston-Technical Arts Coordinator

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.





NORTHWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2875 State Road 580, Clearwater FL 33761
www.northwoodpc.org

(727) 796-8090
Like us on Facebook!

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5, 2015 ~ 8:15 & 11:00 AM

WE GATHER

(Let the congregation be silent, and in prayer as the service begins. Please silence electronic devices.)

GATHERING MUSIC “Variations on an Easter Hymn” John Rutter
(O Sons and Daughters Let Us Sing, Hymn #235)
Organ Duet: Tom Huffman, Mark Prater

PRAYER OF PREPARATION (8:15) Ellen Stoup; (11:00) Dawn Winder

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” Joel Raney
Organ, Piano, Handbells, Choir

(Acolytes symbolically bring in the light of Christ & then take it out into the world.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS **Chris Curvin, Pastor**

***PASSING THE PEACE OF THE RISEN LORD**

***EASTER GREETING (Responsive)**

Leader: The Lord has risen!
People: He is risen indeed!
Leader: Christ is risen!
People: HE IS RISEN INDEED!

***HYMN #233** “The Day of Resurrection!” LANCASHIRE

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison) **Paul Means, Associate Pastor**
Mighty God: by your power is Christ raised from death to rule this world with love. We confess that we have not believed in Him but fall into doubt and fear. Forgive our dread of dying, our hopelessness, and set us free for joy in the victory of Jesus Christ, who was dead but lives, and will put down every power to hurt or destroy, when your promised kingdom comes. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (from #248)**

HYMN TO JOY

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN *(Children age 3 (by 9/14) through fifth grade may go to Room 3 for Children’s Sunday School.)*

INTRODUCTION OF THE 2015 CONFIRMATION CLASS

8:15	9:30
David Hamilton	Drew Hatch
Sarah Flaherty	Jarrett Mattson
Heather Wood	Lindsey Peterson
	William Warren

WE UNITE IN PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

“Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

WE SHARE

CALL TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING “Joy in the Morning” Natalie Sleeth

*There’ll be joy in the morning on the day, there’ll be joy in the morning on the day,
For the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone, there’ll be joy in the morning on the day.*

*There’ll be peace and contentment evermore, there’ll be peace and contentment evermore,
Ev’ry heart, ev’ry voice will together rejoice, there’ll be peace and contentment evermore.*

*And the glory, glory, glory of the Lord will shine,...will shine (shine upon us)
And the glory, glory, glory of the Lord will bring the truth divine.*

*There’ll be love and forgiveness ev’rywhere, there’ll be love and forgiveness ev’rywhere,
And the way of the Lord will that day be restored; there’ll be love and forgiveness ev’rywhere.*

*There’ll be love and forgiveness, there’ll be peace and contentment,
There’ll be joy, joy, joy, joy, ... JOY!*

***DOXOLOGY #606**

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below:
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WE HEAR THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING (page 811)

Matthew 28:1-10 NRSV

SERMON

“The Unshakeable Truths of Easter” Chris Curvin, Pastor
“And suddenly there was a great earthquake...” v. 2

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!” EASTER HYMN
arr. Mary McDonald

The congregation stands and sings all four stanzas. Each stanza is preceded by a short instrumental section. All who desire are invited to come forward during the hymn to join the choir in the loft for the “Hallelujah” chorus—scores are provided.

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Earth and heav’n in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where’s thy victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL ACCLAMATION** “Hallelujah” G.F. Handel
from *Messiah*

CLOSING VOLUNTARY “Exultate” Daniel Gawthrop

(You are invited to remain for the final act of worship, the closing voluntary. A closer look is welcomed if you wish to come stand next to the organ console.)

*Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director
Mark Prater, Guest Pianist/Organist*

**Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.*

Welcome Friends & Guests!

April 5, 2015

A Happy and Joyous Easter to you! Your presence adds greatly to our celebration of the victory of Christ over sin and death. Christ is risen! He is Risen indeed!

We invite you to register your attendance on the friendship sheets in your bulletin. If you are new to Northwood, we hope that you’ll worship with us again and consider becoming a part of our friendly and caring church family. Please speak to one of the pastors for information. *If you are interested in exploring membership and/or have questions, please call Pastor Chris Curvin or Katie Pacana, Membership Coordinator, at 796-8090.* The next Discovering Northwood New Member Class is May 17th at 10:45 AM in Room 4 of the Christian Education building.

We hope you will join us for fellowship, coffee, juice and cookies between services in the hallway outside the kitchen.

DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN? Infants and toddlers are provided care in our excellent nursery during the entire Worship Service and during the Sunday School hour. Children ages 3 (by 9/14) and older may remain in worship with their parents.

Restrooms are located off the hallway across from the kitchen.

Anyone wishing to discuss a commitment/recommitment to Christ, or anyone who has a special prayer concern may speak with one of the pastors after the worship service.

Northwood provides transportation for those who need it to and from the 11:00 AM worship service. Call the church office, 796-8090, before noon on Fridays to reserve a seat.

THE EASTER LILIES IN THE SANCTUARY TODAY are given to the glory of God by friends and members of Northwood Presbyterian Church in honor and in memory of their loved ones. (See insert).

We hope you will take time to look through this information and take note of all the events taking place in the life of Northwood. If you are visiting, we hope to see you again soon!

He is Risen!
Pastor Chris



Thank You for Participating by Bringing Flowers today for Northwood’s Flower Cross!

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 Isaiah's Inn, 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.

FAITHFULLY SERVING NORTHWOOD TODAY

ACOLYTES:

(8:15) Isaac Jeffre
(11:00) Ethan Crossley

GREETERS:

(8:15) Gwen & Gary Reefer
(11:00) Lauren & Bob Meier

USHERS:

(8:15) Dennis & Betty O'Shea
Dick & Connie Evans
(9:30) Sam & Barb Musgrave
Bill & Louise Mylin
(11:00) Mike & Linda O'Leary
Sue Miskiewicz, Roger Snay, Sr.

VAN DRIVER: Ed Puschmann

OFFICE CLOSED

The office will be closed tomorrow, **Monday, April 6, 2015**. The office will re-open Tuesday, April 7, at 9:00 a.m.

MUSIC NOTES

Easter music is usually loud and joyous and today will fit that mold! We open with the exciting organ duet arrangement of "O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing" by John Rutter. Widely known for his choral music, Rutter wrote this piece in 1986. The tune is a fifteenth century French melody that was probably composed as the original music for the Latin words 'O filii et filiae.' The translation appears in our hymnal at #235 and #255.

The anthem is a popular choral piece by Natalie Sleeth first performed at her husband's inauguration as president of West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon WV in 1977. Because it was outdoors with no organ, she added a brass accompaniment for the occasion that our second organist today, Mark Prater, will play on the third manual of the organ. This is probably Sleeth's most popular work having been sung and recorded by countless choirs including the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Like the opening organ music today this anthem is also in a minor key but certainly exudes joy from beginning to end. Natalie wrote about the piece, "...the best (most satisfying) part of writing the whole piece came when I had the idea for the ending with the delayed final major chord. I remember feeling excited at the effect (it would produce.)"

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO....

Monday, April 6th: Mark Luther
Tuesday, April 7th: Wilai McNay, Dayshaun Roberts
Wednesday, April 8th: Jerry Cox, Jr., Greg Hatch
Thursday, April 9th: Julie Giese, Jennifer Johnson, Jackie Koski
Friday, April 10th: Pat Cheek, Lloyd Kimball
Saturday, April 11th: Babs Bailey, Chris Parker, Pamela Peters, Steve Sturdevant

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



Happy Birthday!

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.

Teacher: Nathan Rodewald

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

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

Teachers: Jana Davis & Aimee McDermott

1st & 2nd Grades

Room 16

Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 16.

Teachers: Melissa Patel

3rd-5th Grades

Room 4

Students gather to worship at the beginning of the service with their teachers, in the front rows, closest to the band. After the Prayers of Joys & Concerns, they will move to room 4.

Teacher: Bridgette & Roger Ulrich

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.

Teacher: Barbara Englehart & Nancy Stevens

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 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

Youth Room

9:30 A.M. ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY—Rooms 12 & 14

TODAY: Join us in Serendipity class as we look to Holy Week and the joy of Easter morning! Led by Bob Meier and Jeanette Holloway.

TCI (Today's Christian Issues)—Rooms 8 & 10

TODAY: Matt. 8:20 says Jesus had "nowhere to lay His head." Come and join us today to discuss how His very human experiences affect us. Coffee and cookies are also available. Martha Tobiasen will lead this discussion.

11:00 A.M. ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EXPERIENCING GOD: Our Class will not meet today. Join us next week as we continue our study of Nehemiah.

Congratulations to our Confirmands!

Today we welcome our 7 Confirmands into Membership in the Presbyterian Church. These students, grades 7 and up, started classes back in February 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 March Session Meeting. On Saturday, March 28 they attended a Breakfast in their honor where they shared their faith statements. And today we welcome them as brothers and sisters in Christ's Church!

Kid's Corner Preschool & Northwood Child Care

If you haven't already, be sure to take a look at our 10+ years, NAEYC Accredited Preschool! Enrollment has already begun for the 2015-2016 school year! Do you need a camp for your children during summer? Why not look into our Northwood Child Care Summer Camp! For more information about our Preschool, After School and Summer Camp programs, visit us online at www.northwoodpc.org/schools.

Children's Ministries

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.

King's Kids:

King's Kids, our midweek children's program for ages 3rd-5th grade, will resume April 8th, 4-6 p.m., and will continue Wednesdays through April 22nd. We will have an end of the year party on Wednesday, April 29th from 4-5:30 p.m. If you have questions about King's Kids, please contact Justine Ruisz.

Thank You:

Thank you to everyone who donated eggs for yesterday's Egg Hunt. We collected over 1000 eggs!

VBS Sports Camp:

Registration is open!!! Please go to www.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.

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

Youth Events

About our Youth Ministry:

Our active youth ministry is open to all 6th-12th graders and offers something for everyone. There are weekly events (see below) as well as monthly and annual. We invite you to check out our website for more information and join us for one or more events!

Sunday, April 5: No Youth Group, Happy Easter!

Friday, April 10: Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, April 12: Youth Sunday, Lunch at Jason's Deli

No Youth Group

Friday, April 17: Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, April 19: Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.

Friday, April 24: Game Night 7-10 P.M.

Sunday, April 26: Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.

Sunday School: Join us for combined middle/high school Sunday school at both 9:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.

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

Youth Sunday is April 12th! Mark your calendars! We'll need ushers, greeters, readers, and more! After the services, we'll meet at Jason's Deli for lunch with the youth and their families. See Troy for more details.

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.

Attention Graduating Seniors: Please submit your pictures and post graduation plans to Katie Pacana by April 30th. Pictures can be dropped off in the office or e-mailed to Katie@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 Katie Pacana in the church office now or print one out online. 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. For more information about this scholarship, go to www.northwoodpc.org.

Troy Harris, Director of Youth & Young Adults
troyharris1962@yahoo.com, 727-366-7762

Upcoming Events

Beth-El Open House

Join us April 19 for a trip to Beth El for a tour and bilingual church service. The church bus will be providing transportation. We will leave the church at 2 PM and return approximately 6:30 PM. Please bring rice and pinto beans for the food pantry. For reservations on the bus call Evelyn Towns 727-785-3743.

Boy & Girl Scout Religious Badge Opportunity

Northwood will be sponsoring classes for Boy and Girl Scouts for religious badges (God and Me/God and Family) for scouts in grades 1-4. Classes will begin on Sunday, April 19th and run Sunday afternoons until May 24th. Please contact Cub Master, Matthew Ruley at 727-709-6139 for more information.

MUSIC WORKSHOP

The 59th Annual Church Music Workshop (Music Camp) will be Monday through Friday, June 15-19 at Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg (same place as last year). Northwood adults and youth that are involved in music and worship have been attending this for several years. This year costs are reduced and through some of the money earned at the annual garage sale the fees for Northwood folks to attend are even more affordable. The adult cost of \$434 is reduced to \$184; the youth cost of \$325 is reduced to \$165. Rising 6th graders may attend (we provide chaperones for middle schoolers). You are invited to join in singing, ringing handbells, playing organ and other instruments, worshipping, reading new music, laughing, praying, attending seminars, and making friends in a peaceful, picturesque atmosphere on the banks of Lake Griffin. Adult registration increases by \$50 after April 15, so if you are interested in going, speak with Tom Huffman or Stephanie Carson. There are also scholarships available for first time attendees that we could apply for.

Renaissance Crew

We will meet on April 9 at 10:30 in rooms 9 and 11. Based on readings from his Continuing Education, Pastor Paul will discuss the topic of public faith and how followers of Christ might serve the common good in the midst of a culture where some seek to suppress religious thought and faith from the public square. Following the program we will enjoy having lunch at a local restaurant. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Paul at 796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org with questions.

2016 Honduras Mission Trip, July 24 – July 31

On Sunday, April 19 at 2:00 p.m. in room 5, the Honduras Team is excited to host an informational meeting to share about Northwood's mission trip to Honduras in 2016, and to get an idea of the number of people who are interested in going. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Paul at 796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org.

Children's Summer Music Camp, August 17-21

Children rising into 3rd-6th grade are invited to take part in our Summer Music Camp August 17-21. This Monday-Friday camp will run 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. with the performance being Friday, 8/21, at 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$30 and is limited to the first 20 children who sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Carson (stephanie@northwoodpc.org or 796-8090).

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 18th at 10:45 am in Room 4 of the Christian Education Building.