



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

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Sent with Prayer to...

Kirkin' o' the Tartan

Northwood Presbyterian Church
Sunday, February 16, 2020

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

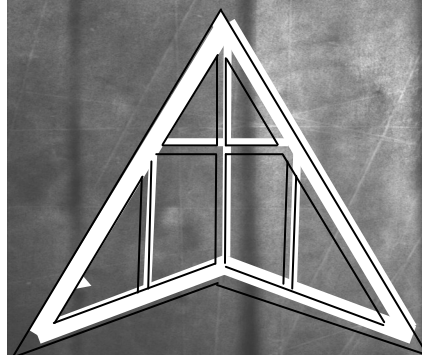
Featuring Dunedin High School Pipers and Drummers
There will be music for the pipe and drum along with hymns and
anthems of our Scottish heritage.

If you would like the honor of carrying a tartan in procession at one of the services,
contact Justine Davis at the church office (727)796-8090 or email
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.

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Northwood Presbyterian Church



The Window

Chartering Organization of Boy Scout Troop 413

January 2020
Volume 30, 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,

I want to share with you a story and a truth for us to remember in this new year of 2020.

The story is about a man who moved into a retirement community. It wasn't long until he had made a number of friends and there was one lady he was especially attracted to and she was attracted to him. Finally, one evening he proposed, asking her to marry him. The next morning he woke up remembering his proposal, but he couldn't remember her answer. So, he went to her & said, "I'm really embarrassed. I proposed to you last night but I can't remember if you said 'Yes' or 'No.'" "Oh, thank goodness!" she replied. "I remembered saying 'yes' but I couldn't remember who asked me."

Sometimes I feel that way about New Year's resolutions. I tell myself, "This year I'm going to do all kinds of things to improve myself. But then somehow, over time, I forget. Maybe you have that problem, too. So, let me suggest a truth that came to us long ago for us to remember.

First, remember that, January 6th is the 12th day of Christmas. It is named Epiphany. Epiphany means an "appearing" of something. The word bears the idea that something that was once private and closed is now in the public eye and open to all.

The religious world Jesus was born into tended to be very private and closed. First Century Judaism mostly meant that to find God, you pretty much had to be born into the right religion or convert to Judaism, but even if you did convert, you were not welcomed in the same way. In Luke's version of the Christmas story, (in chapter 2), it is extraordinary that it's shepherds, (of all people), to whom the angels sing. Shepherds were living examples of the irreligious, the "un-churched," if you will. The "shepherds keeping their flocks by night" business is so familiar to us that the ancient scandal of it flies right over our heads.

The Christmas story in Matthew's gospel, (also in chapter 2), tells us of "Magi" who were the first to welcome and glorify Christ at his birth with gifts. They were Gentiles, non-Jews, foreigners, representatives of all nations. The Magi and shepherds are pioneers of the diversity we have become as followers of Christ today. Those shepherds and Magi standing in our nativity scenes and pictured on our Christmas cards are silent reminders to us that narrowness is not the way it was meant to be according to the Gospel. Churches throughout our nation and time, if not diligent, can grow narrow and private and associations of the like-minded, racially homogenous disciples.

There was once plenty of room for the likes of shepherds and Magi. Northwood, like many churches, has an open and big table which unites us in Jesus Christ. A living example of the grace of God.

So, the truth we need to remember is that Epiphany is a celebration of the openness and the breadth of Christian faith. Epiphany is a public welcome to all, however strange to our eyes they may be. Epiphany is an invitation, addressed to all, to come to the table – shepherds and Magi, Republicans and Democrats, conservatives and liberals, illegal immigrants and refugees, Catholics and Protestants, firm believers and faith-strugglers. There's plenty of room. And this is a truth we need not forget in 2020 as we crown and proclaim Him Lord over all!

Your pastor and friend,
Chris Curvin

At-A-Glance

This Month at Northwood

January 2020

*The church office will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 for New Years Day. It will reopen Thursday, January 2.

Sunday, January 5:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Friday & Saturday, January 10 & 11:
Church-Wide Garage Sale
8:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

Sunday, January 12:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Sunday, January 19:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Christmas Service
10:30 A.M. Discovering Northwood Class
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service

Friday, January 24:
Youth Rock the Universe Trip at Universal Studios

Sunday, January 26:
8:15 A.M. Traditional Service
9:30 A.M. IGNITE Service
11:00 A.M. Traditional Service Meeting
12:00 P.M. Annual Congregational Meeting

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The Window

Published monthly by Northwood Presbyterian Church
Edited by Emily Cantin

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

Around Northwood



Sing with Composer Mark Hayes

Composer, Mark Hayes, who wrote and arranged our Christmas Cantata, is coming to work with our choir on Saturday, February 29, and give a concert with the choir on Sunday, March 1. If you would like to learn his music and take advantage of this free opportunity to work and sing with him, our rehearsals begin every Wednesday evening beginning January 15 from 7-7:40. A special rehearsal will also happen Saturday morning, January 18 from 9:30-11:00. If this interests you, please contact Stephanie Carson, 796-8090. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to work with the most prolific church music composer of our time!

Financial Matters



2019 Contributions

Giving intended for 2019 must be received in the church office by noon on Tuesday, December 31 or postmarked no later than December 31, 2019. Contributions which are processed electronically through your bank's online bill pay or via our website must be initiated much earlier (probably no later than December 26) so that the transaction will fully process and qualify for deduction in 2019.

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.

Northwood Photo Group

Please join us for the regular monthly meeting of Northwood Photo Group on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00pm in rooms 13 & 15 of the Christian Education building. If you're interested in photography, you're invited whether you are a beginner or expert! If you have questions you may contact David Lawrence at david@primeimagesinc.com or Curtis Krueger at curtis.krueger@gmail.com.

Annual Report Deadline

Annual Report deadline to the Session, Committees, Pastors & Staff is Monday, January 6th by noon. Please submit your electronic copy to communications@northwoodpc.org. There are copies of last year's annual report in the church office if needed. If you have any questions, please contact the church office. Thanks!

Annual Congregational Meeting January 26th at Noon

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 26th. 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.

Pledge Cards for 2020

Thank you for your faithful response to God's call to give freely and wholeheartedly to support the ministry and mission of Northwood Presbyterian Church in 2020. If you have already submitted a pledge card for the coming year, thank you! If you have yet to do so, please do so as soon as possible as pledge cards are available in the sanctuary pews, in the Church Office and in the Narthex. Thank you again for all God has done in and through your giving back to Him at Northwood Presbyterian in 2019. We look forward to the work God is preparing for us in 2020.

Around Northwood



Scout Sunday

Northwood Celebrates Scouting Programs in our Community! On Sunday, **February 9th**, 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 9th, 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!

Women's Retreat-Save the Date

Join the women of Northwood for an amazing weekend of fellowship, games, crafts, canoeing and nature walks. Cedarkirk Women's retreat will be February 7-9, 2020! Our topic for this year will be "Where's the Forest? All I See Are Trees" led by Cindy Huffman and music will be led by Stephanie Carson. A poster with brochures can be found on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. Please have deposits and room requests in by January 20th. Any questions, please contact Jeanneestephen@gmail.com.

Music Ministry's Annual Garage Sale

Our 2020 Music Ministry Annual Garage Sale is just around the corner! The sale is **January 10-11, 2020 from 8:00am-2:00pm**. Have you been saving all your treasures for the sale? We hope so! We sell almost everything – select furniture, jewelry, kitchen items, clothes, shoes, toys, holiday items, tools, collectibles, books, linens, outdoor items and decorations. Please no older TV's, older electronics or entertainment centers, or furniture that is not in "new" condition. Tax deductible receipts are available.

Donations will be accepted on the following days: December 27th-31st—9:00am-1:00pm
January 1st-8th—9:00am-6:00pm

If you need a different time, please call Susan Curry at 727-709-8237. If you have items that need to be picked up, please call Susan Curry 727-709-8237 to arrange for a time or if you have any questions.

The sale can only be successful with your help. Please invite your friends, neighbors and family to donate and to come to the sale. Thank you in advance for your amazing generosity and awesome support of this very special event!

Special Notice: We will have a church family and friends pre-sale on Thursday, January 9th from 3pm-7pm.



Fun! Friends! Friday!

Ren Crew

The Ren Crew is a group of adventuresome, young at heart 50+ adults that enjoy sharing fun with friends, old and new. For January we will meet on the third Friday, January 17, to avoid overlapping with the Music Ministry Garage Sale. We will meet in rooms 9 & 11, where Ed and Marie Ziegler will present an educational and entertaining program on their travels in Spain. Following the presentation the group will enjoy having a delicious lunch at a popular restaurant. For more information, you may contact Pastor Paul Means at 727-796- 8090 or email at paul@northwoodpc.org.

Marriage Alive

Marriage Alive is a Christian based marriage support group for couples that meet the first Saturday of every month. Our next meeting is January 4th from 6:00-8:00pm in rooms 5 & 7 of the Christian Education building. Married couples of all ages are invited to attend and don't need to be members of Northwood. This month we will continue our video series "A Marriage Built to Last" by Chip Ingram. Each lesson has a 30 minute video and discussion. Each family please bring a heavy appetizer to share. Child care will be provided, if needed. Questions, please contact Spencer Briggs at spencer.briggs1@gmail.com.



Caring for Our Church Family

NEWS FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Beth El

Thank you for your contribution of \$665. It is the season of thanks, and we are particularly thankful for your support of our farm working community! Blessings, Kathy Dain

Foundation for International Missions

Thank you for your generous donation of \$500 given in support of our mission at the New Hope Clinic in rural Honduras. Each gift makes it possible to provide life-saving medical care to those who would otherwise have no access. Sincerely, Frances M. Mikuta

Transportation Ministry

This ministry provides transportation for the 11:00am service. It is for members and friends who are unable to drive themselves to church. There are several volunteers who drive our church van covering a radius of 5 miles. At present, residents of Stratford Court and St. Marks Village are among the riders. Fleet Wulf is the Deacon heading this ministry. Volunteer drivers are always welcome. If you need the service of this ministry, please call the church office at 727-796-8090 by 12 noon on Thursdays.

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 is \$32.20 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. To do so just write "per-capita" on the memo line of your check or mark an envelope accordingly. Thank you for your gift.

WAY Dinners

Mark your calendars! WAY Dinners are scheduled to begin February 26th. Watch the bulletin for menu and description of the series.

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of:
Vittorio Torrisi
Father & Brother
Pat Casper

Given by:
Mary Torrisi
Mary Torrisi
Dick Casper

Prayer Ministry

Bill Allen, Ken Andreassen, Carol Anderson, Julie Bryant, Shirley Gleason, Sharon Helms, Fred Inkles, Carol Justice, Jane Kaempfer, Joyce Klotz, Mildred Martin, Robin MacLennan, Norman Phillips, David Smith, Gene Snyder, Al & Ethel Holden, Bonnie Beyer, Don Drummond, Jane Urban, Ruth White.

Prayers and Christian sympathies to:

- The O'Leary Family upon the news of the death of Pete Towns' sister, Jeanne McDaniels on November 24.
- The Briggs Family upon the news of the death of Spencer Briggs' mother, Lorraine Briggs on November 26.
- The Michael Family upon the news of the death of Margaret Michael's mother, Rhonda Lane McMullen on December 4.
- The Drew family upon the news of the death of Fred Drew on December 6.

Grief Recovery and God's Grace

Beginning Wednesday, January 8th, and continuing through Wednesday, February 12th, Pastor Paul will lead a six-week educational seminar and support group for persons who are experiencing grief due to the death of a loved one or for those who are facing grief from other types of significant loss in their life. The time of the seminar is from 12:30pm to 2:30pm and meets in rooms 13&15. This is not a group therapy program, so while active participation is encouraged, it is not required. There is no cost for the materials. For more information, please contact Pastor Paul at 727-796-8090 or paul@northwoodpc.org.

Christian Education

Sunday Morning Classes



TCI Class (Today's Christian Issues) 9:30am, rooms 9&11

TCI provides a respectful, civil and non-judgmental forum to explore the timely issues we face as Christians, citizens, parents and friends. We ground our discussions in scripture and celebrate the diversity of ideas drawn from experiences and perspectives.

Experiencing God Class

Sundays at 11:00am, room 15, led by Vicki Krueger

The Experiencing God class offers you a place to connect with other believers in the study of God's word and how it applies to our daily lives. Our goals: to grow in our understanding of the Bible as Jesus' own group of disciples did; to meet the needs of others in our group in prayer and ministry; to become equipped for evangelism; and to let the living Word of God dwell richly in us.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

This Bible study meets at 11:30am on Sunday mornings in room 8. We are studying the minor prophets from the Old Testament. We are looking at God's message of hope and reconciliation to God's people while they were in exile. The book we are using is part of the *Immersion Bible Studies- Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, and Jonah* by Bruce Epperly. If you have any questions or would like to purchase a book for the study, please contact Cindy Huffman 727-409-8727 or lucindy1@aol.com. This is a discussion class and is approximately one hour in length. All are welcome! Come join us!



The Project Group

We're women of all ages who sew, knit, and crochet items with a mission purpose. We sew little dresses for Haiti or walker bags, make lap robes, or knit caps for newborns. We need new members! Meetings are on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 9:30 am in Room 13. We share ideas, get encouragement to finish projects, sort through donated material and enjoy Christian fellowship. Questions? Call Evelyn Towns 727-785-3743 or join us on Tuesday, January 28th at 9:30 in Room 13.



Presbyterian Women Women's Circles

Presbyterian Women are using a Bible study called "Love Carved in Stone" by Eugenia Gamble. This is a 9-month study of the Ten Commandments. Come and join one of our study sessions, everyone is welcome!

—Esther/Elizabeth Circle; Tuesday, December 10th at 9:30am, room 5 and will continue to meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month.

—Lydia/Naomi Circle; Monday, December 16th at 11:30am, room 5 and will continue to meet the 3rd Monday of every month.

Study books are available for purchase at each session. If you'd like more information or have any questions, please contact Patty Martin at bill.martin2@verizon.net.

Fresh Brewed Bible Study

Women's Bible Study— This group gathers the first Friday of every month. Our date for this month is Friday, January 3rd at 10:30am in room 5. The book we are working from this year is *Fresh Brewed Life: A Stirring Invitation to Wake Up Your Soul* by Nicole Johnson. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Louise Mylin, lvnml@hotmail.com.

Children's Ministry



Children's Sunday School

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (19/20 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-1st Grade, Room 3

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

2nd-5th Grade, Room 8

Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 8.

11:00 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (19/20 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.

King's Kids

King's Kids will resume Wednesday, **January 29th**. This is our Wednesday program for children ages 3 through 5th grade. It runs from 4:00 to 5:45 p.m. throughout the school year. This is a mid-week program to help build friendships in a Christian environment, strengthen faith, and bring children closer to God. If you have questions, please contact Justine Davis at childrensministry@northwoodpc.org

Drop n' Shop Thank You!

Thank you volunteers and youth helpers who helped with our Christmas Drop n' Shop! The kids enjoyed games, cookie decorating and learning about the true meaning of Christmas, Jesus!

Confirmation

Interested in Confirmation? If you're in the 7th grade or older and have not been through the classes, we'd love for you to join us. Confirmation classes begin on February 9th and run until Confirmation on April 12th. If you're interested in joining the 2020 Confirmation class or would just like more information, please contact Rosalie Bradford at youthdirector@northwoodpc.org.

Wednesday, January 1st, *No Citynight, Winter Break*
Friday, January 3rd, 6:00-8:00pm: *No Game night, Winter break*
Sunday, January 5th, Amplify Sunday School, 10:45am-11:30am
Wed., January 8th, Citynight, 6:30pm-8:15pm (dinner provided)
Friday, January 10th, Game Night *OFFSITE*, 7:00pm-10:00pm
Sunday, January 12th, Amplify Sunday School, 10:45am-11:30am
Wed., January 15th, Citynight, 6:30pm-8:15pm (dinner provided)
Friday, January 17th, Game Night from 7:00pm-10:00pm
Sunday, January 19th, Amplify Sunday School, 10:45am-11:30am
Wed., January 22nd, Citynight, 6:30pm-8:15pm (dinner provided)
Friday, January 24-26, Rock the Universe, Universal Studios
Wed., January 29th, Citynight, 6:30pm-8:15pm (dinner provided)
Friday, January 31st, Game Night, 7:00pm-10:00pm

What's going on in Citylight

Youth ministry at Northwood has enjoyed the holiday season! We have three ongoing programs a week: Citynight on Wednesdays, Game Night on Fridays, and Sunday School. Citynight is from 6:30pm to 8:15pm where students will meet in the youth room to experience fellowship, eat dinner, play games and experience God through activities and a lesson. Our Sunday school class is exploring a series called Amplify, where students focus on building their faith foundation. In December we expressed our Christmas Spirit! We spent a day serving at Metropolitan Ministries, went to the Ring, Sing, & Mingle, had our annual Family Christmas Party, hosted a Christmas lock-in, went to the Family Christmas Eve Service, fed a foster family, signed up for our summer trips and continued to meet at our scheduled program times. Check out our calendar for all of the activities planned for January and make sure to follow our Facebook and Instagram page!

Ways for adults to serve this month:

- Chaperone at Citynight
- Chaperone at Game Night
- Bring in items from our grocery list posted on our bulletin board

If you would like to support this thriving ministry, contact Rosalie Bradford at youthdirector@northwoodpc.org

